No. 18

BANK STREET

KING ST, TO ~~PROV~~ 7th St.

Mr. Robert Dunsmore
PO Box 801
Osburn, ID 83849-0801

The source of photos is indicated in the title
(Source Identifier) with "letters", ie:

BS = Barnard Stockbridge
Web: Home : The Barnard Stockbridge Collection
↓
Database
(Lists 1 to 398 pages)
↓
Select Page Number
(Page lists ten photos – use Horizontal format)
↓
Select Photo
(Photos are assigned a location by page Number – photo count (1 to 10)
The Database lists photos based on their title.

Titles are listed by Year (If in title) then alphabetically. Comments on photos are listed in parenthesis.
T = Tabor Collection (U of I)
Web: Home : George W. Tabor Collection
↓
Timeline
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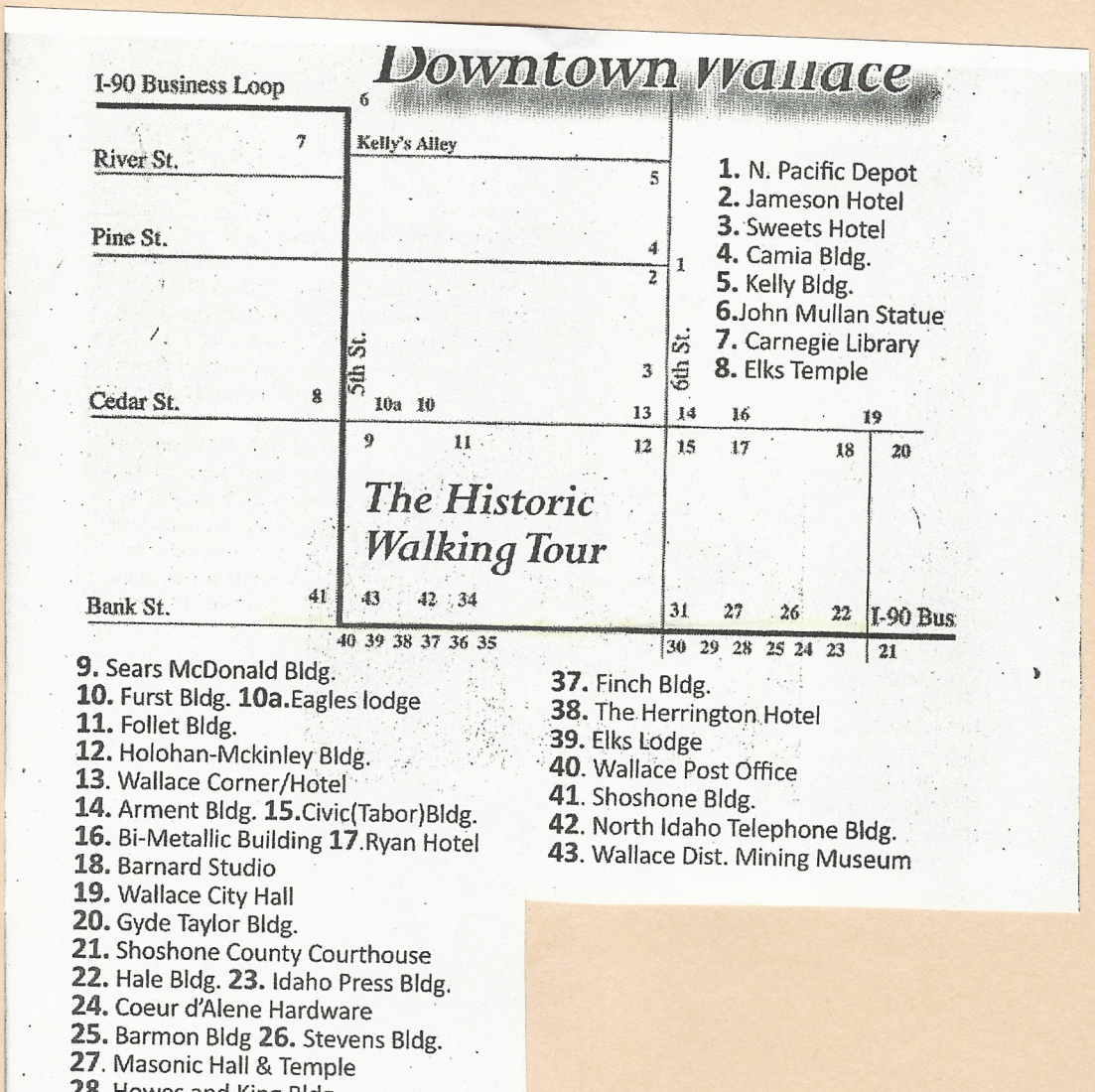
Photo
↓
The "Timeline" lists photo by their Year Photos are numbered by year followed by the count in that year

ISHS = Idaho State Historical Society

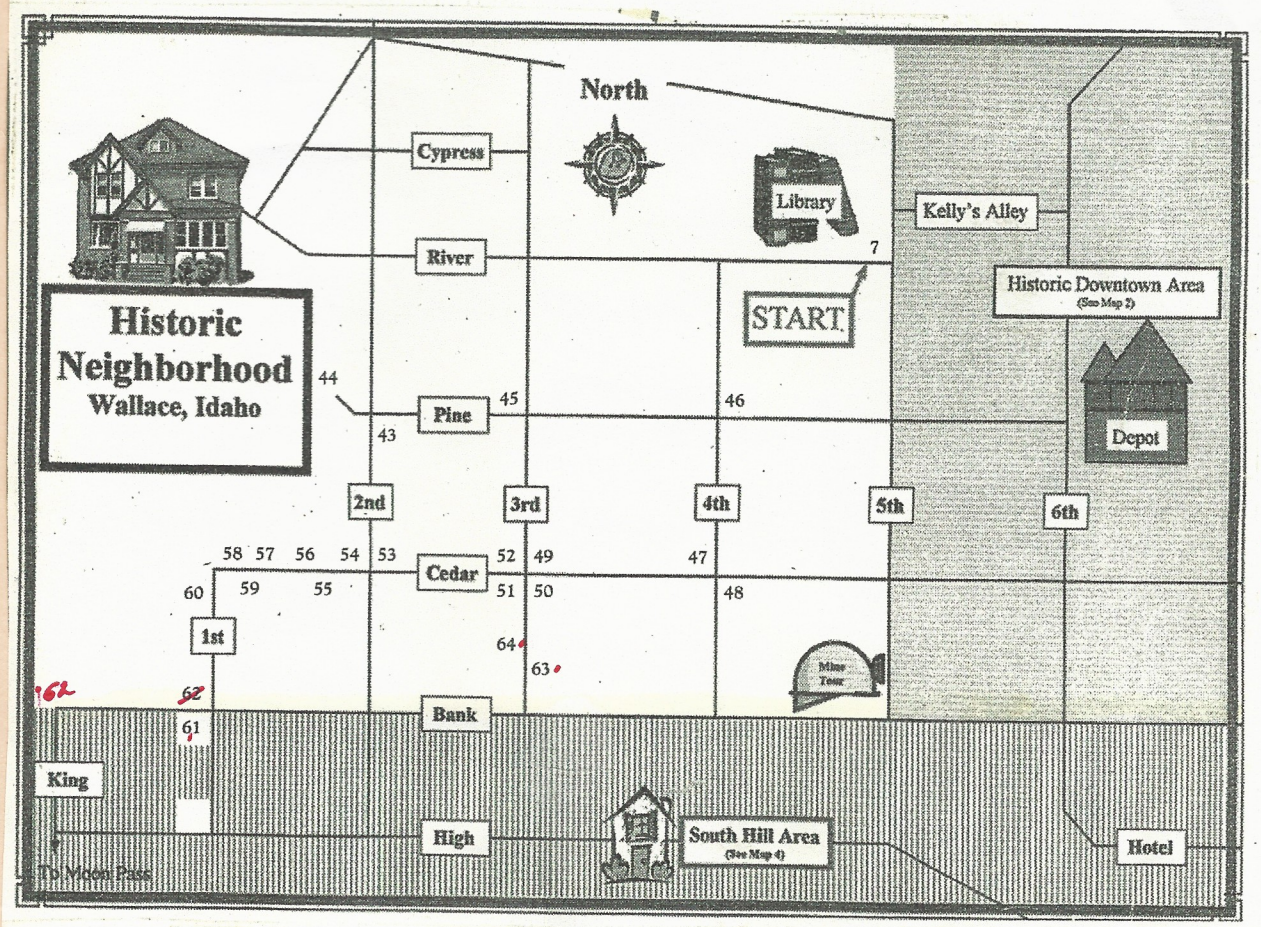
BPR = Bureau of Pubic Roads – go to ITD
HWPS or :W" = Historic Wallace Preservation Society

DL = Duane Little



Walk Wallace Downtown Tour

Sponsored by Historic Wallace Preservation Society, Inc.
www.historic-wallace.org



43. St. Alphonsus Catholic Church
44. 101 Pine Street
45. 221 Pine Street
46. United Methodist Church
47. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
48. United Church of Christ, Congregational
49. 301 Cedar Street
50. 304 Cedar Street
51. 225 Cedar Street
52. 221 Cedar Street
53. 221 Cedar Street
54. 218 Cedar Street
55. 114 Cedar Street
56. 125 Cedar Street
57. 121 Cedar Street
58. 107 Cedar Street
59. 102 and 106 Cedar Street
60. 406 First Street
61. 504 First Street
62. 21 Bank Street
63. 411 Bank Street
64. 412 Bank Street

Walk Wallace Residential Tour

Sponsored by Historic Wallace Preservation Society, Inc.

Wallace pool

bs old pool

This was the Wallace swimming pool before the big flood of 1933. Located up King Street, the pool was constructed in the early 1920s. Before that the kids of the community went to a small swimming hole in the location where the pool was eventually constructed. Mary Zeller, who moved to Wallace in 1919, remembers both the swimming hole and the King Street pool. She said the pool was unheated, but that didn't seem to bother the kids in those days.

A careful study of the picture reveals that there was a diving tower at the far end of the pool as well as a small diving board. Change rooms for the bathers line the far side of the pool and sticking out behind the change rooms was an old-time privy, probably hanging over Placer Creek!

It is also interesting to note that even the boys of that period wore a full body suit.

There was no charge for using the pool, and Zeller said there were no lifeguards on duty most of the time.

Swimming Pool - Placer Ck. Before 1933

061083 - 7A

The History of the Wallace Pool

The site of the first swimming pool in Wallace was in the old high school, built in 1914. This pool was a concrete drain and fill model. However, a few years after the pool was constructed, a gym floor was built over the pool's cavity. The floor could be removed in case the pool was needed.

Logs placed across Placer Creek formed the first outdoor pool in Wallace. This pool,which was built in 1918 when the hills were still brush covered as a result of the 1910 fire, was located about one hundred yards above the falls on the present dam site. Lagging, nailed to the logs, extended down to the creek bottom creating a pool that was about four feet deep.

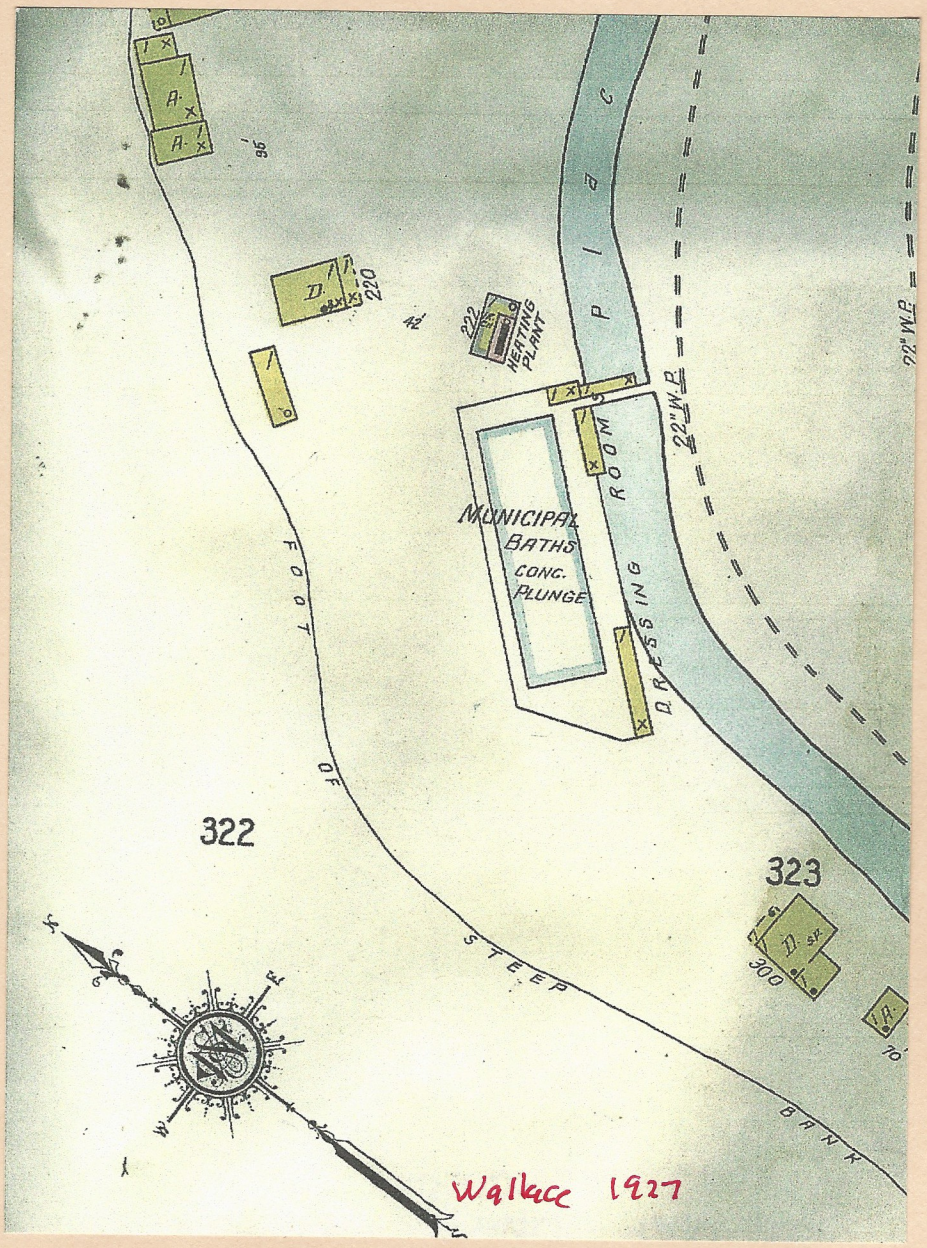
In approximately 1921, the pool was moved about one block down the creek. Lagging was set end to end and nailed to a log to make a pool ten feet deep.

A concrete drain and fill pool was built at the present dam site in 1922 or 1923. Water from the creek filled the pool, and a coal fired boiler heated the water. "However," Don Conley recalls, "about the time the water was heated to a comfortable temperature, it had to be drained because it was dirty."

Solar power heated water for the showers. Two inch steel pipes set four feet off the ground ran up and down the hillside extending from the the flume line (that still remains there) to the pool. The flood during the winter of 1933-34 washed this pool away.

Wallace had no pool between 1934 and 1939. Al Strope, the owner of a tourist camp in Silverton, allowed the kids to swim in his pool which was about four feet deep.

In 1939, the present Wallace pool was built under the WPA program behind what is now Crow's Printing. After careful consideration, the present site was chosen because of its central location. Also, it was thought that when people from out of town came to Wallace to shop, the children could swim while the adults did their shopping.



T - 33 - 102 First Swimming Pool, 1931 - 1935

T - 35—30 King Street in Snow 14, Jan. 1935

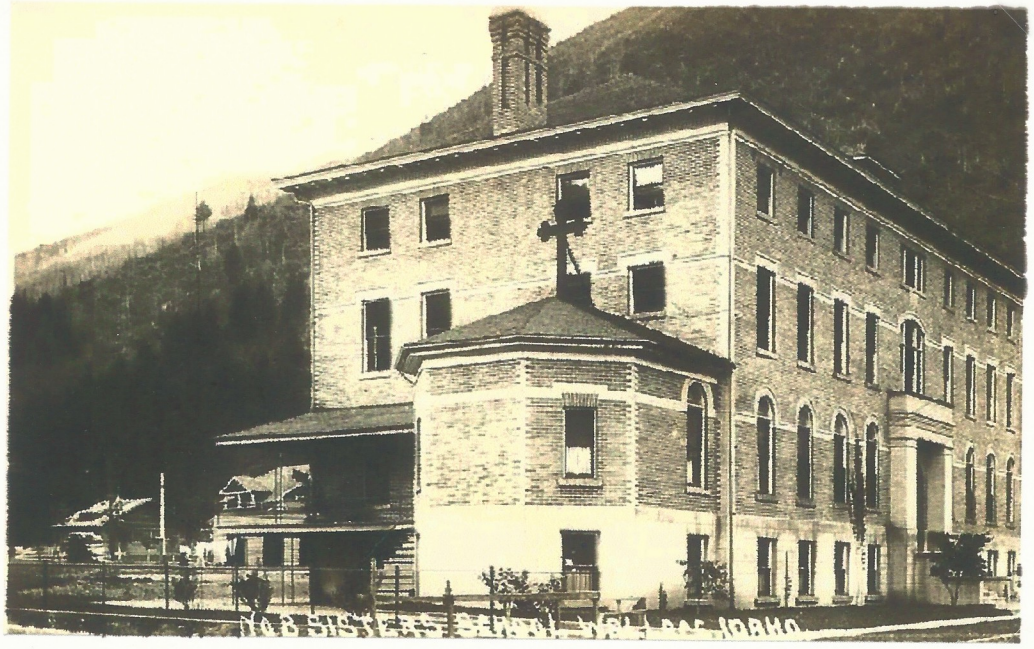
B5-Mallon

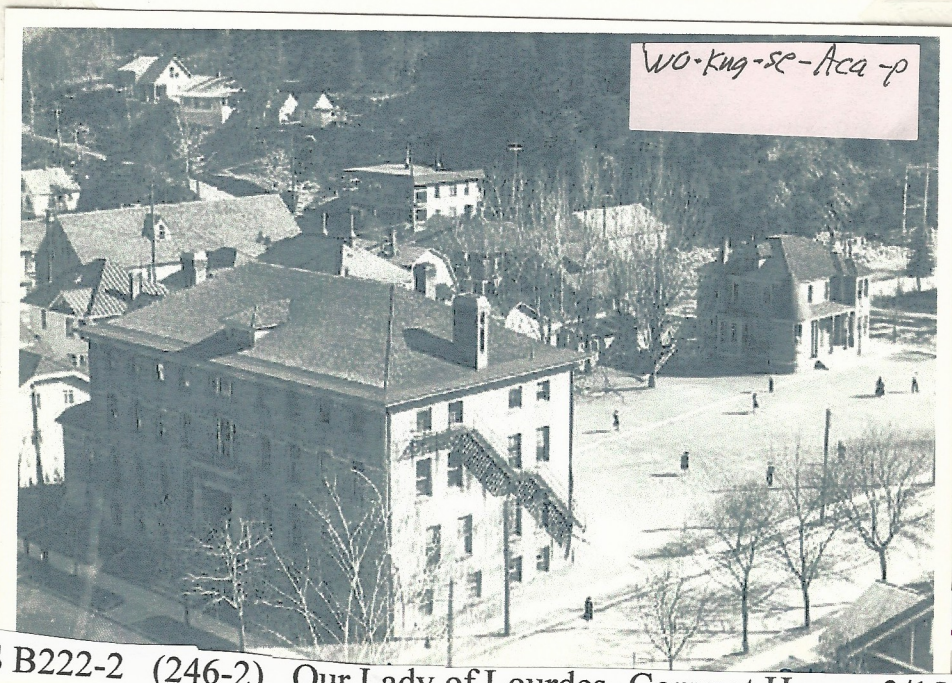
B5 King St.

B5 Placer Creek

Catholic School 1909

In September of 1904 a Catholic School was opened in the basement of the Providence Hospital in Wallace. The following year, this fine brick structure was erected and given the name, "Our Lady of Lourdes Academy." Providing educational instruction for grades 1-12, the Academy also had the boarding facilities on the top floor. The Academy's high school was closed in 1962 and instruction for the balance of the grades ended in 1972.





BS B222-2 (246-2) Our Lady of Lourdes -Convent House- 3/15/40)

BS X247 (351-3) Wallace – Academy of Our Lady of Lourdes – 1907

BS B200-3 (87-9) Convent - 6/01/38

BS B368-1 (245-3) Our Lady of Lourdes 1910

BS B3. 8-2 (246-3) Our Lady of Lourdes, Wallace

Our Lady of Lourdes Academy

Academy helped educational needs

Editor's note: the following article was submitted by the Sisters of Providencs and follows a recently published article by Dominic Crolla. This account includes mainly the reminiscences of Charles Tilford, a graduate of Our Lady of Lourdes Academy and now a prominent Spokane businessman.

In the late 1800's and early 1900's, the Sisters of Providence were gradually expanding their mission to encompass the needs of the raw, young communities spreading throughout Idaho and the rest of the Northwest. A growing influx of settlers forging into the region produced a number of needy along with the prosperous.

Over the years, the Sisters of Providence helped fill the region's social service needs by founding 29 hospitals, orphanages, shelters and schools.

In Idaho, one such establishment founded by the Sisters was Our Lady of Lourdes Academy in Wallace. When it opened on Jan. 8, 1906, the Lourdes Academy, as it came to be known, welcomed 30 pupils, 15 of whom were boarders. The opening of the Academy soon proved to be a significant step toward widening the eduational opportunities for those living in the heart of the Coeur d'Alene mountains at the turn of the century.

A former student of Our Lady of Lourdes Academy, Mr. Charles A. Tilford, has these recollections of the Academy in its early days....

"I first began school at Lourdes Academy in 1919, when I was six years old. When I left the academy 11 years later, in 1930, I took with me many memories as well as an education.

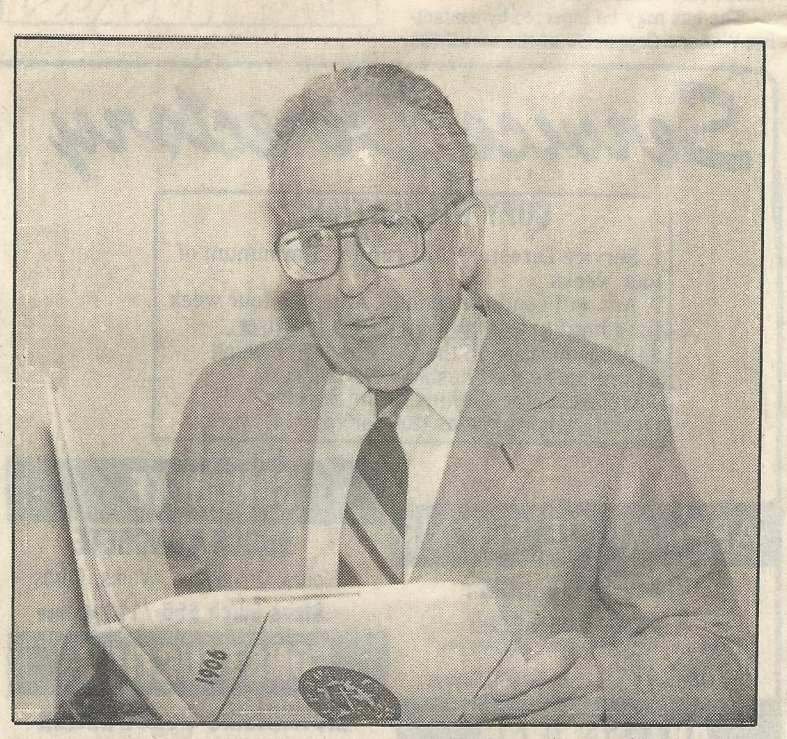
"Lourdes Academy was more than a school for those in Wallace, it was a vital institution for much of the population in the surrounding area. In the early 1900's, there were many miners and other laborers in Burke, Mullan and Kellogg, and they worked six and sometimes seven days a week. When some of the men lost their wives, the Academy was a place where their young children could be placed to get an education and to grow in an atmosphere that was much more nurturing than a mine boarding house. I knew children from Kellogg, Burke and Tamarack Canyon who lost their mothers and lived at the Academy.

"Lourdes Academy was also a shelter for children whose family was affected by illness or other emergencies. When my younger sister was born, my mother placed my brother and me there as boarders until she returned from the hospital. My father worked in the Hercules Mill and had hours that made it impossible for him to take care of small children.

"The Lourdes Academy was also part cultural center. Families who sent their children to the public school also sent them to the academy for music. The sisters were very talented and they presented elaborate plays and programs. Sometimes their productions were performed in the Grand Theater and many people were impressed with the ability they had developed in the students of the Academy.

"One reason for this development of diverse talents in the students was that the Sisters stayed on after school hours and took time with students who needed help. The Sister's hard work was met with ward in many ways. For example, when students of the Academy finished the eighth grade, they had to go to the office of the County Superintendent of Schools and take an exam in order to enter high school: all the Academy students I knew passed the exam.

"In the mid-1950's it came to the attention of the citizens of Wallace and alumni of the Academy that the Sisters were quietly enduring



Former Wallace resident Charles A. Tilford graduated from Our Lady of Lourdes Academy in 1930.

hardships brought about by the gradual aging of the Academy's structure built over forty years earlier. Among other things, we learned that when the students left the building after classes, the sisters turned off the heat in a large part of the building and spent their time in a single, large "common" room.

"The Provincial sent Mr. Gus Bouten to look over the building. He determined its main structure to be sound, but recommended extensive updating and renovations. To meet the expenses of renovation, a fund-raising campaign was initiated.

"Mr. John Sekulic of Lucky Friday Mining Company prepared a big barbeque and invited parishioners and other town supporters of the school. The event was highly successful and a substantial sum was raised and more promised. Mr. Henry L. Day was also approached on a separate occasion and he too agreed to make a generous contribution.

"With a lot of help from individuals in the form of labor, the work started. On any given evening, you could go into the chapel and find the local dentist on his knees laying tile. Grocers and accountants were wielding paintbrushes and windows were removed and putty and paint applied by mining executive and engineers.

"Finally the work was completed and the school was once again in good repair. The Bishop came to Wallace to bless the Academy, marking the onset of 20 years of renewed dedication to the educational system of Wallace and the surrounding region.

"With the passage of time, better travel cond itions and different work schedules, the need for Our Lady of Lourdes Academy diminished and it was closed in 1971. A need had been met and many of the Sisters were being called to work in other areas."

Following closure of the Academy, the building was again renovated and now serves as an apartment complex for the elderly and handicapped.

BS B222-3 (245-7) Our Lady of Lourdes (02) 3/15/40

October 19, 2019

The first brewer of beer in the Coeur d'Alene Mining District, Carl H. Mallon was born in Russia, April 5, 1844. Raised in Germany, young Carl learned the brewing process as a chemistry student. In 1870 he served with the German army in the Franco-Prussian War. Mallon is unaccounted for until the 1881 census finds him at Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, England, working as a brewer. Biographical accounts say Mallon immigrated first to Chicago before heading further west, but the author could find no record of him before late 1884.

On November 8, 1884, Carl married Margaret Holst at Virginia City, Montana Territory. The eldest daughter of Montana pioneers Henry & Marie Holst, Maggie was born January 28, 1867, in Helmstedt, Germany. The family moved to Virginia City when Maggie was four years old, and her brother William Henry was born at Bivens Gulch in 1874. (70 years later the brother would die a recluse in the same remote cabin he was born in.) After a two week honeymoon, the young Mallon couple, "started by horseback for the gold fields of Western Montana," and into the last great gold rush in the lower 48.

Mallon opened his first brewery on the state line near the Belknap siding of the Northern Pacific Railway, and the Belknap Trail entrance to the Coeur d'Alenes. After the business section of Belknap burned in July of the following summer, Mallon moved on to Murrayville. From 1884-1889, Carl quenched the thirsts of many a Murrayite. Mallon was advertising his mineral water in Oregon and Washington business directories. Mallon called his naturally carbonated spring water, "Edanha."

The Mallons welcomed a daughter named Pauline in 1885 that drowned in Prichard Creek in 1887. A daughter, Minnie was born in Murray on March 16, 1887, Daughters Pansy Emma (born September 8, 1892), and Rose Marie (born October 5, 1895) followed.

Shortly after the Mallons moved to Wallace, on July 27, 1890, the commercial hub of the district burned to the ground. The fire originated on the west end of town, in Shorty Denver's saloon or the Central Hotel depending on the source, and resulted in an estimated half a million dollars in losses, and many homeless. Mallon's operations seemed to have been spared, as they aren't listed in any of the retellings of the 1890 fire.

In mid-November of 1896, Placer Creek, "along which are built the well-to-do citizens' houses," flooded its banks. Ten feet of snow had fallen in the mountains before warm rains left two blocks of the residential neighborhood's soil washed off to bedrock or gravel. Of six railroads running into Wallace, one could run trains. The Coeur d'Alene steam laundry went first, but Mallon's Wallace Brewery followed & was severely damaged by the logs, stumps, and other debris as the flood made its way to the south fork of the Coeur d'Alene. Papers called the destruction, "desolation," and the wake, "a pitiable spectacle." Headlines in New York City read, "Ruin is king in the Coeur d'Alenes," with fifty thousand dollars believed insufficient to recoup "Placer Creek's pranks." Mayor Jacob Lockman and council basically ordained by proclamation a new meandering of the waterway after townspelple had piled and planked a few hundred feet to redirect the flow. Lockman, coincidentally would go on to build the four-story brick block of Sunset brewery at a cost of $15,000.

In 1898, Mallon was listed alongside Mayor T.N. Barnard and other Populist candidates for a city council seat out of the first ward. The Mallon family of five was the eighth home counted in the 1900 census, the same year that Mallon erected a brick and stone brew house at a cost of $6,500.

In autumn of 1903, Mallon, represented by Howard Prescott Gatley and A.G. Kearns, took a case to the U.S. Supreme Court. Mallon had discovered a lode of quartz bearing gold, silver, and lead on public lands in the Placer Center mining district - survey No. 967, A, mining entry No. 202. Secretary of the Interior Ethan Allen Hitchcock determined that the land in question was non-mineral and Chief Justice Harry M. Clabaugh dismissed the case.

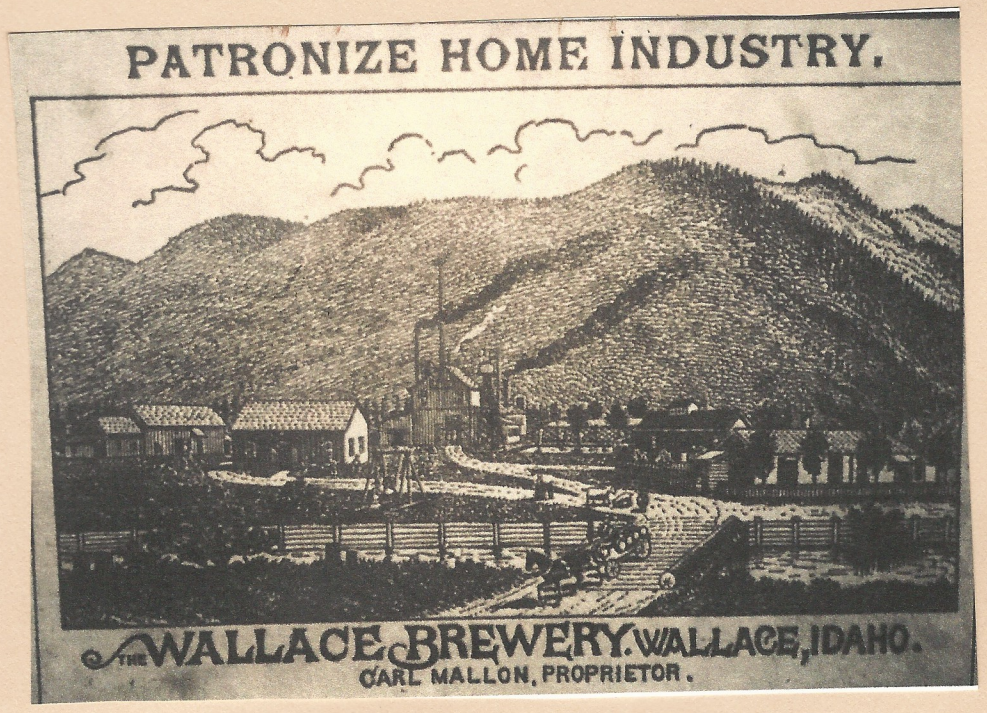
1903 also saw Carl Mallon recognized by a publication entitled, "An Illustrated History of North Idaho," as "an intelligent and prosperous businessman" of Shoshone County. "Proprietor of the Wallace Brewery and Bottling Works, and also an ice dealer, [...] Mr. Mallon is very popular in [his chosen fraternal] orders, as he is in his standing also." Sadly, the text also relayed that the Mallons had lost two children by the time of its publication.

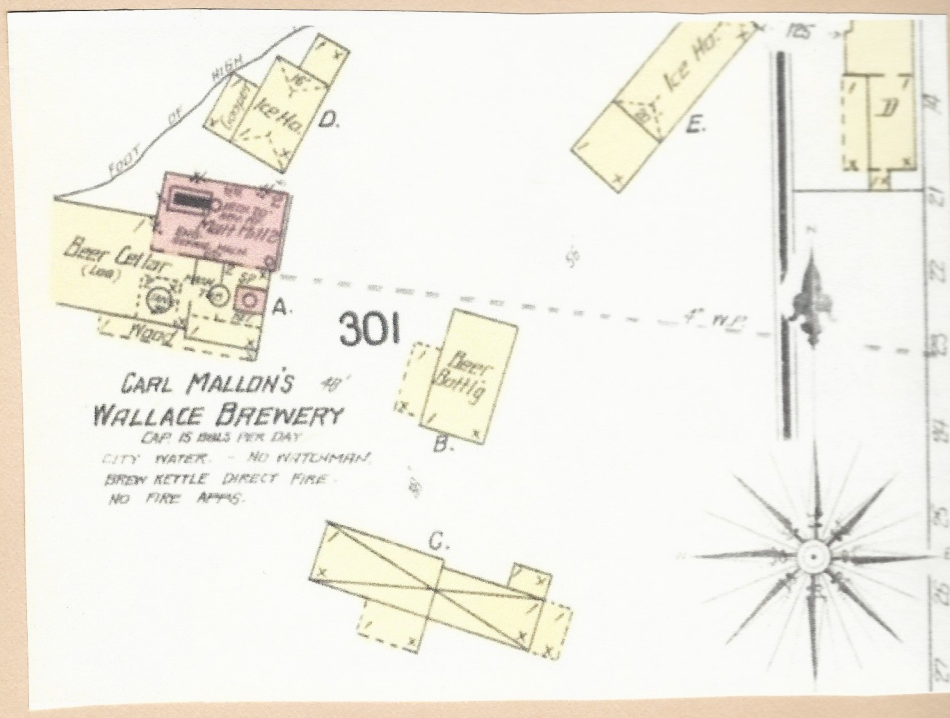
Less than a year later, on July 12, 1904, Carl H. Mallon passed at St. Luke's Hospital in Spokane after several weeks of treatment. Mallon's obituary printed in the Idaho Press, Saturday, July 16, 1904, relayed that George Chandler of the Eagles, J.H. Scott of the Elks, Emil Pfister of the Foresters, and J.W. McGinnis of the Red Men went to Spokane to accompany the remains back to Wallace. Mrs. Charles Green, representing the Lady Maccabees, travelled with her friend Maggie Mallon.

"The body was received in Wallace by the Fire Department, of which organization Mr. Mallon had been an active member for many years, had served as chief, and of which he had been made an honorary member only a few months ago by virtue of his long and valuable services. Thursday the body conveyed to the family residence from Ward's undertaking parlors, the casket being placed on a hose wagon and the following firemen acting as pall bearers. L.L. Sweet. E. Pfister, Alexander D. McKinlay, Peter J. Holohan, William Stimson, and Charles Waller. The Episcopal burial service was read at the residence, body conveyed to Masonic Temple where public services were conducted by the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Herman Rossi, President of the Eagles presided. This was followed by a violin selection, "Reverie," by Mrs. A.H. Conner. Mrs. Stella Bartels sang, "O, Land of God," and a quartet composed of John O'Meara, Lon Lewis, Ben Lewis, and James McGregory, and "Nearer My God, to Thee." Chaplain Hugh Toole closed the exercises when the great assemblage which filled the opera house was given an opportunity to view the remains."

"The procession that followed the remains to the cemetery was the largest ever seen in Wallace. It formed in the following order, every society being largely represented particularly the Eagles and Lady Maccabees: Ancient Order of United Workmen, Ladies of Honor, Fire department being the immediate escort of the remains, Lady Maccabees, Foresters, Eagles, Elks, citizens on foot, carriages. The Northern Pacific company kindly furnished a special train of three coaches to convey as many as could be accommodated to the cemetery. The services at the grave were conducted by the Ancient Order of United Workmen. The large attendance not only from Wallace, but from Canyon creek, Mullan, Wardner and Murray attested the esteem in which Mr. Mr. [sic] Mallon was held and the general sympathy felt for his family."

Carl H. Mallon is buried in the Eagle section, row 6 at Nine Mile Cemetery. His wife, Margaret lived to age 90, and passed on March 11, 1960. Daughters Rose Marie, Minnie, & Pauline also rest at Nine Mile.


PATRONIZE HOME INDUSTRY.
THE WALLACE BREWERY. WALLACE, IDAHO.
CARL MALLON, PROPRIETOR.


FOOT OF HIGH
Ice Ho.
D.
Beer Cellar
(Lea)
A.
Wood
301
Beer Bottlg
B.
C.
E.
CARL MALLON'S
WALLACE BREWERY
CAP. 15 BBLS PER DAY
CITY WATER. - NO WATCHMAN.
BREW KETTLE DIRECT FIRE.
NO FIRE APPS.

The power plant on the corner of 1st and High street, which is now the water district shop. The water to power the turbine came from about a mile and a half up Placer Creek via a flume and a sheet-iron penstock, part of which is still on the hillside, and it powered the whole city.

61. 504 FIRST (1910). This is a rambling one-and-a-half-story frame house, basic L-shaped plan. It has many bungalow elements and features an open front deck, screened two-story porch on north and jerkin-head roofs. Originally the home of hotel operator P.J. Gearon, it was then occupied by Henry B. Kingsbury mining broker and financier. His widow, Alma, established a local philanthropic foundation.

62. 21 BANK (1916). This is a two-and-a-half-story gable front house with long shed roof dormers on each side. The front door is rounded arch. The two-story porch across the facade has been moved. This house, the second largest in Wallace, was built for Herman J. Rossi, a former mayor of Wallace. It was donated to Our Lady of Lourdes Academy in 1958 and became known as the Nunnery. That name is often still used today.

Need 60 or 63?

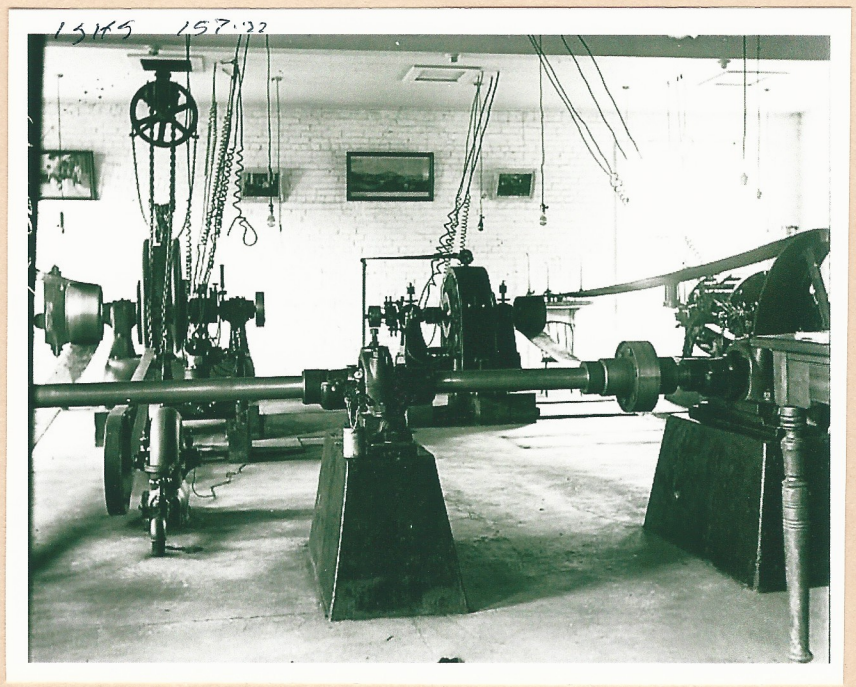
63.-64. 411 and 412 THIRD (1910-1920). Located between Cedar and Bank streets, these large residences were built for prominent families — 411 was built in 1910 by John Callahan, and is particularly noteworthy for its garden, original cast iron fence and jerkin-head roof; 412 was built in 1918. Notice the street above the concrete retaining wall and the wooden staircase that connects it to the street above. Many residents used to climb these routinely to their homes, especially in winter during years when snow removal efforts were unable to provide for reliable winter driving on the south hill.

Flume Intak

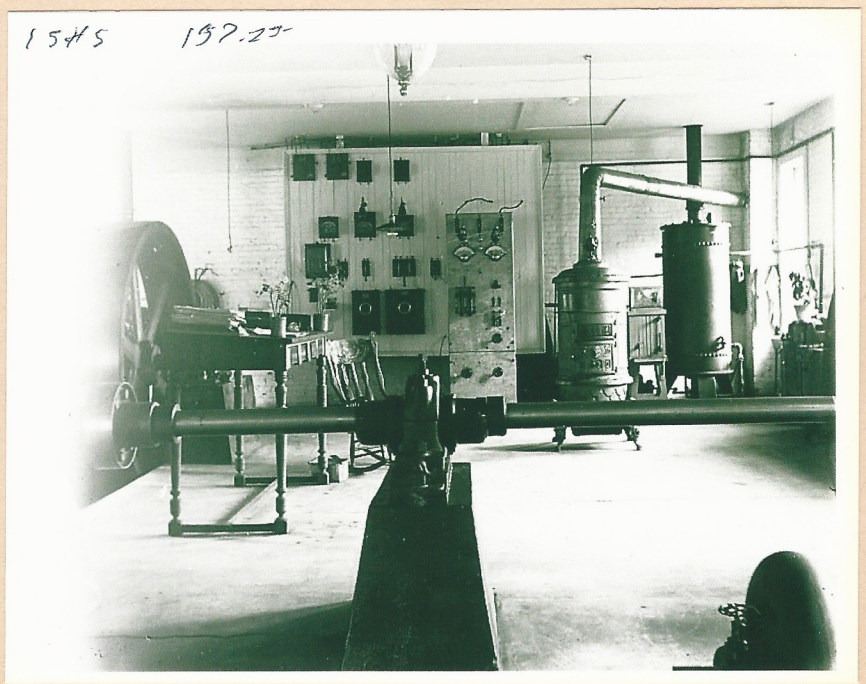
Placer Ck. Flume

Power house

T-68-1



Electric Station



Switchboard

BS X417 (371-9) Wallace – Rev. Vedzie House – 1914

BS X216A (355-10) Wallace – Dr. Charles Mowery's Residence (01) – 1904

H. Magnuson

BS X754 (352-2) Wallace – C.E. Inskip House – 5/01/25

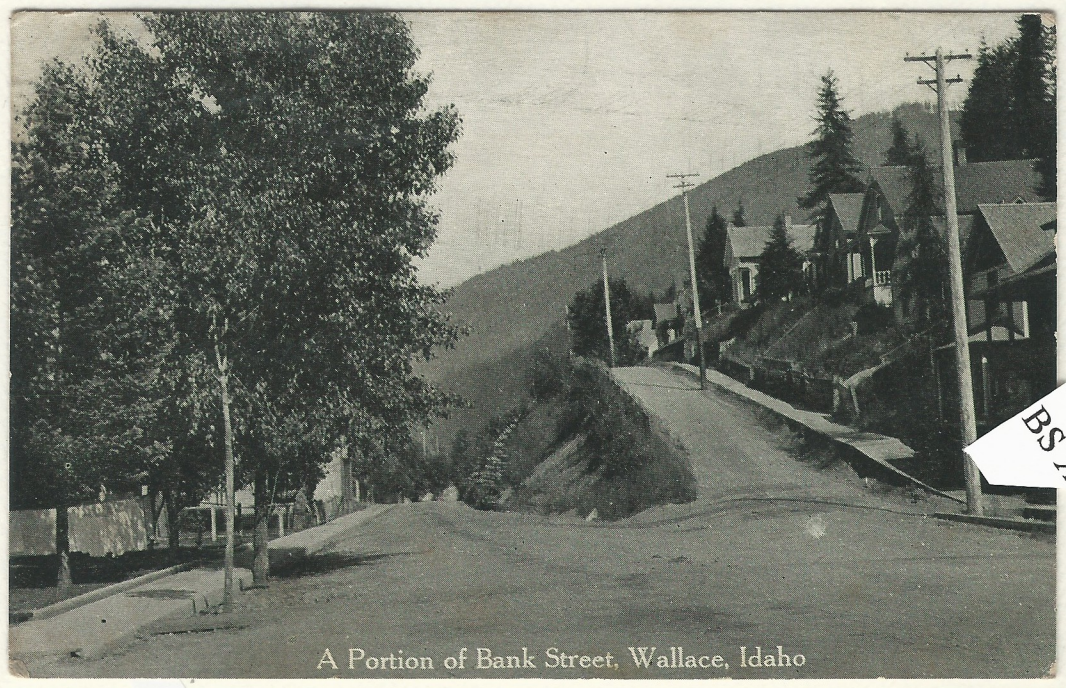
BANK & HIGH BANK ST.

1938

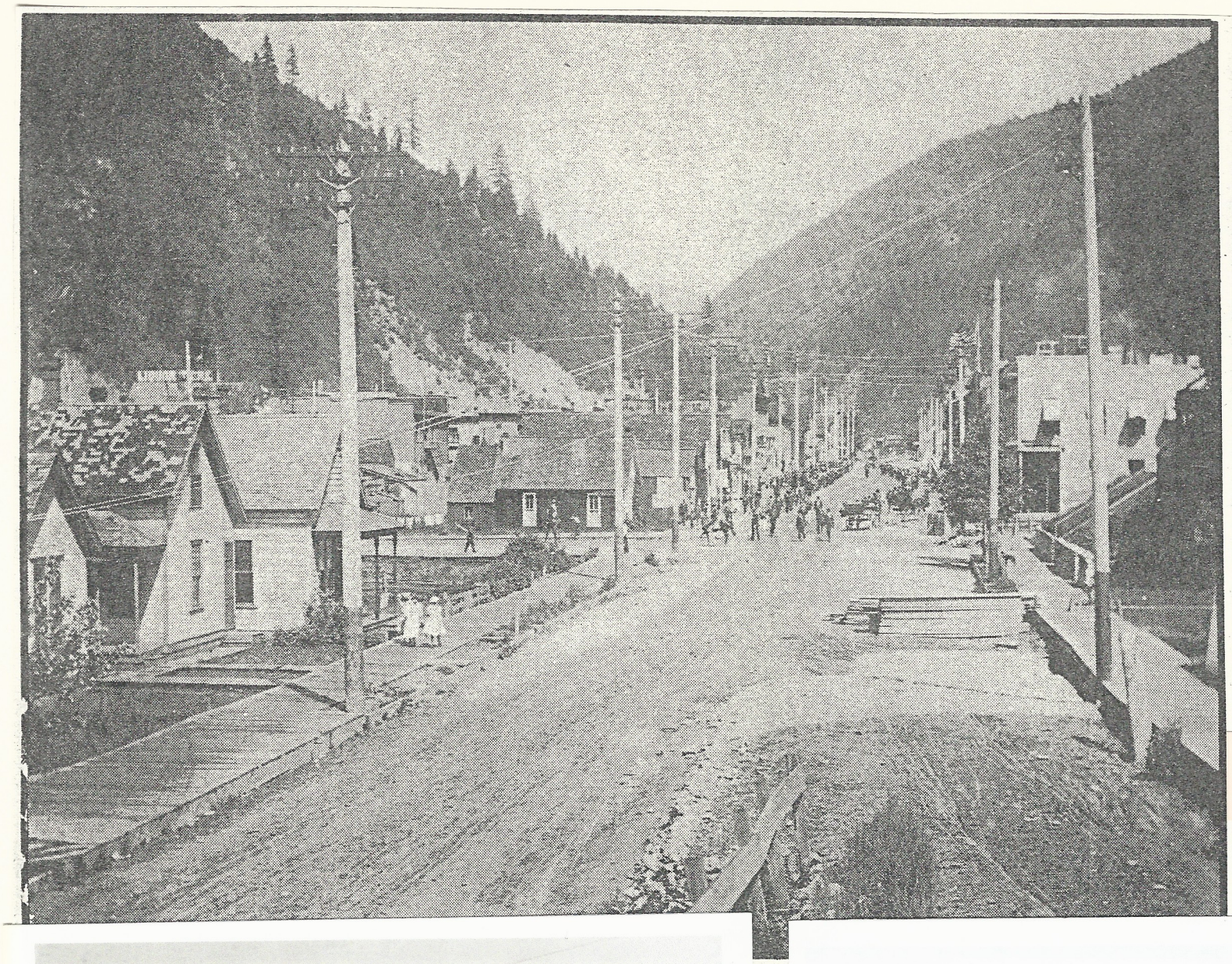
BS B320 (162-9) High Bank Street

Bank St from High Bank Looking East

BS X581d (373-2) Wallace - Street Scene (02) – Bank & High Bank -



BS X581c (373-3) Walace -Street Scene (03) -High Bank from 2nd Street



5th St to 6th St

Early Wallace parade

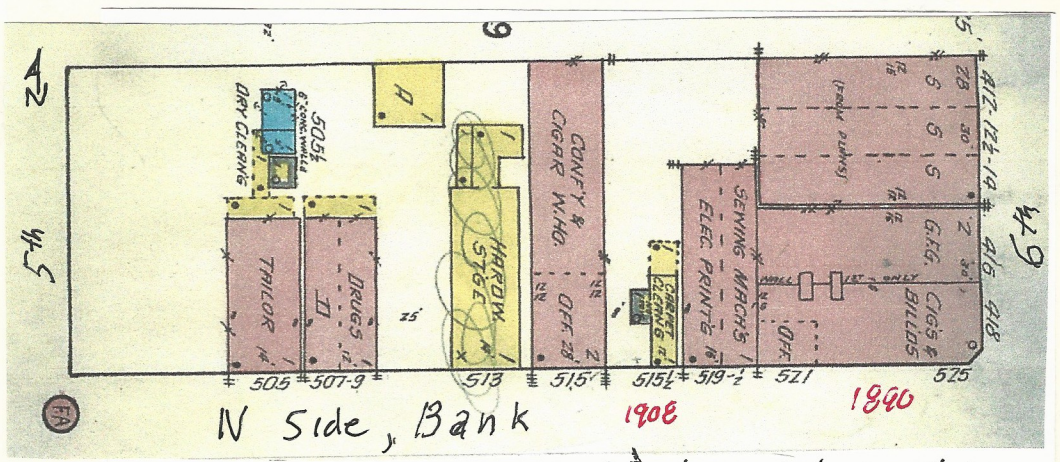
Looking east on Bank Street in Wallace sometime in the 1890s. The occasion is not known, but the parade, led by a band which is seen approaching 5th Street, is heading east on the south side of the street and is returning west towards the camera on the north side. Two horsemen have just turned north on 5th Street ahead of the band when the photographer snapped the camera shutter. (Photo courtesy of Judge Richard Magnuson)

Elks - 1905+
WS-Bnk-w-08Cc

BS B403-6 (42-5) Bank Street in Wallace (02) 1951

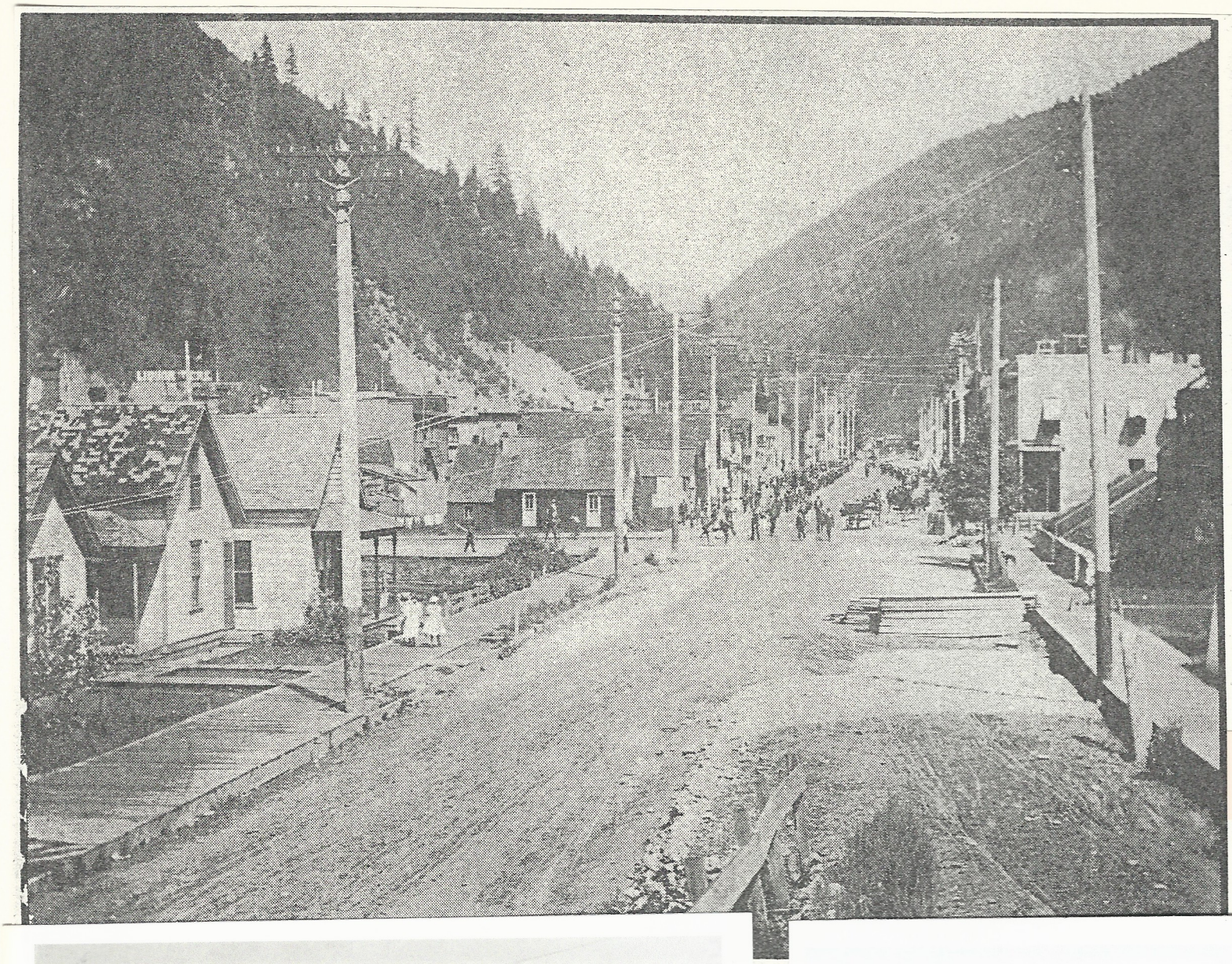
01 1933

T - 37 - 43 Cars on Bank Street 1935 - 1939



Wallace 1927

5th St to 6th St NORTH



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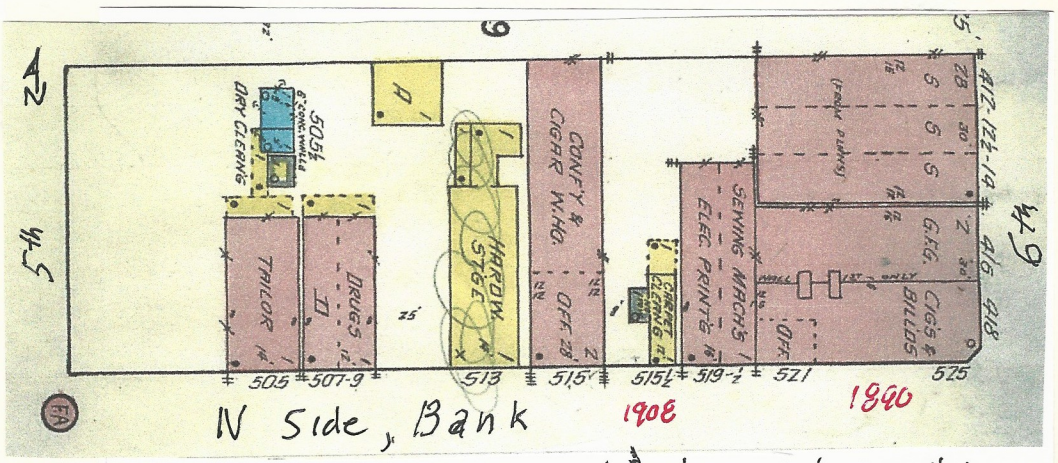


Wallace 1927

42 N. I. Telephone

First TelephoneService In District Is Recalled

by Maidell Clemets
Chairman Shoshone County Historical Society

The first telephone service in the Coeur d'Alene Mining District was probably a circuit which was established in the spring of 1889 in Wallace, Idaho, with four subscribers to its services; by June 1889 there were 16 patrons and the monthly fee was $6 plus 25 cents a call. When you look at those rates, one almost believes that they were hearing in those days was better than what one hears today.

One of the pioneer companies was the old North Idaho Telephone Co; which had its inception in October 1907. It was organized by Walter C. Clark and Dan W. Price of Kellogg.

Mr. Clark served at one time as county commissioner in Shoshone County; he was also superintendent of the Bunker Hill electrical department.

Dan W. Price was well known, for at one time he had a clothing store, also a brokerage business and enjoyed a great deal of success in developing the famous Sunshine Mine.

They incorporated this new found telephone company, with a capitalization of $2,000 and its purpose was to extend telephone services to the ranches, settlers, logging camps and with the communities that were served by the Idaho Northern Railroad which was built from Enaville up the Coeur d'Alene River.

Later in the same year, after the first 20 to 30 miles of line had been completed, the public demand — for larger and better telephone facilities — led Mr. Clark to promote the North Idaho Telephone Co. His first steps were to secure a franchise for general telephone purposes in Wallace, Idaho. Others associating with him were W.T. Papesh, Mr. Cox, Mr. Brown, S.A. Easton, Dr. T.R. Mason and E.W. Miller, also Isaac Babitt, L.W. Gay, Harvey Ross, and a number of other business men from Wardner, Kellogg and Wallace.

They reorganized the North Idaho Telephone Co.; and capitalized at $25,000; all of the stock was sold at a par value of $20 per share; but Mr. Clark soon found the company without funds to meet the growing demands for service.

A meeting was held in the Samuels Hotel parlor in Wallace and the capitalization was increased from $25,000 to $100;000; over $20,000 was subscribed to by original stockholders.

General services were started in November 1908 with J.H. Van Dyke, former manager of the Rocky Mountain Bell Co., acting as the new manager.

The North Idaho Telephone Co. remained in business until 1915, when it was taken over by the Interstate Co.

42. NORTH IDAHO TELEPHONE CO. (1893), 517 and 517 1/2 BANK STREET. This one-story brick building is decorated with a band of corbelled brick dentils. The original storefront with double-recessed doors remains intact.

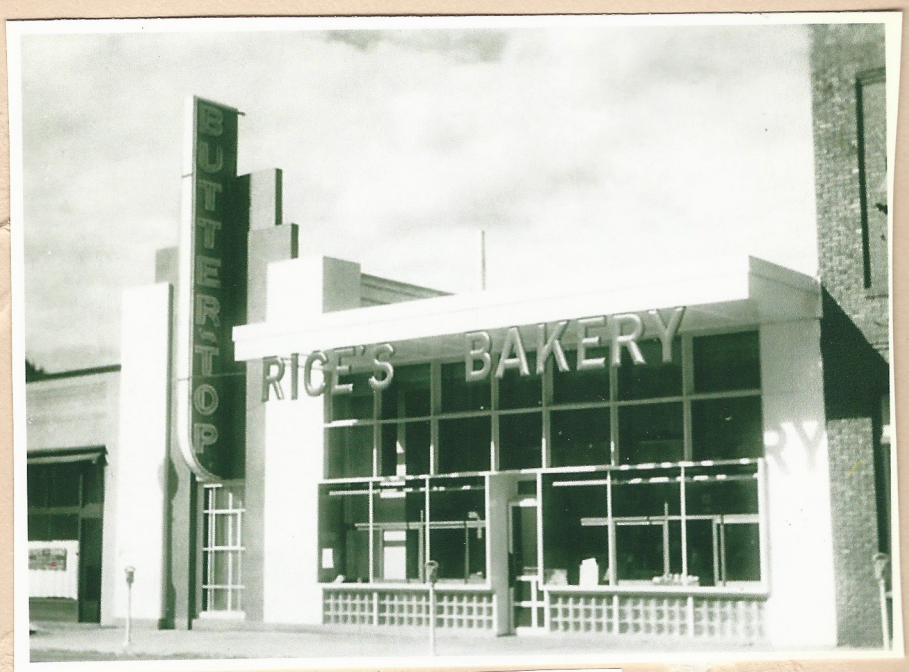
Early days in the mining district

The photo above shows a crew at the telephone office in Wallace in 1903. The woman at the switch board is Hattie McRae, mother of Glen McRae, Mullan.

15

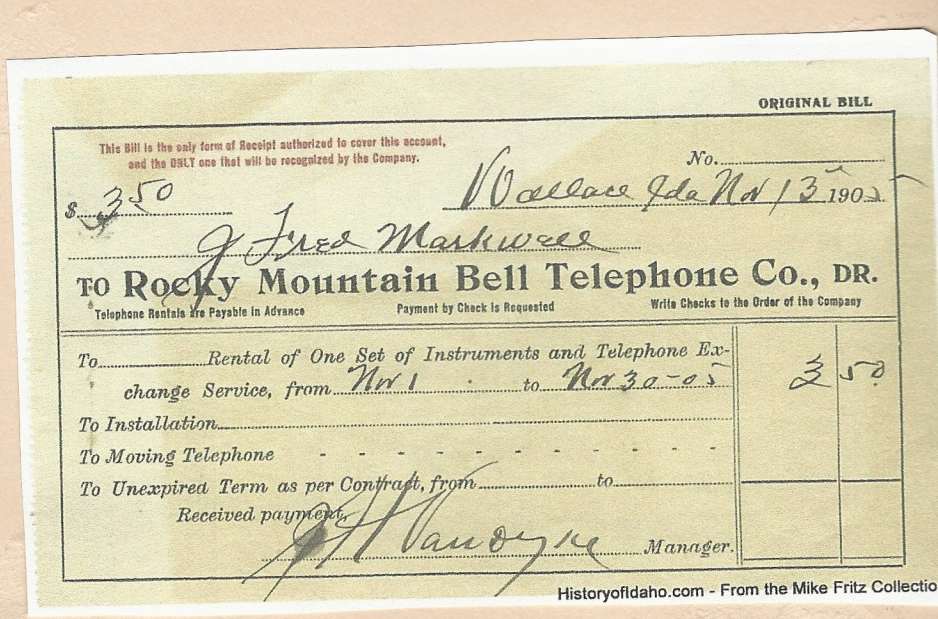
T - 33 - 91 Long Snow Pile in Wallace
(Bank Street) 18 Feb. 1933

BS B403-5 (42-4) Bank Street (01) – East from Fifth Street – 1951



BS B296-2 (264-1) Rices Bakery –

west of "Rices"


ORIGINAL BILL

This Bill is the only form of Receipt authorized to cover this account, and the ONLY one that will be recognized by the Company.

No.

$ 3.50 Wallace Ida Nov 13 1902

J. Free Markwell

TO Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Co., DR.

Telephone Rentals are Payable in Advance — Payment by Check is Requested — Write Checks to the Order of the Company

To Rental of One Set of Instruments and Telephone Exchange Service, from Nov 1 to Nov 30-05 — 3 50

To Installation

To Moving Telephone

To Unexpired Term as per Contract, from to

Received payment, [signature] Manager.

Historyofidaho.com - From the Mike Fritz Collectio

Technology has always had its glitches

By WENDELL BRAINARD
The News-Press

In this modern day of advanced technology in communications such as radio, television, computers and satellites, things were not always that good in "the good old days" of the local mining district, according to an editorial in the May 2, 1907 edition of THE WALLACE MINER.

Entitled "POOR WIRE SERVICES," the article reads as follows: "The present long distance telephone service, and the telegraph service, too, are about as farcial as they can be. We have had some annoying experiences with both ourselves, though we do not use either line nearly as much as other people.

"To the brokers of Spokane, Butte and Wallace, the business of the service is especially irritating. It nas frequently involved individuals or firms in serious complications which were only settled with difficulty without expensive lawsuits.

"And the worst feature of the case is that both Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Co. asnd Western Union Telegraph Co. are and must be themselves the chief losers. With prompt connections or delivery of messages their business would be vastly increased but this can only be assured by considerable outlay which both companies seem determined to avoid."

The editorial then quoted a letter from Dan P. Bagnell, a well known Spokane broker, as follows:

"I would like to have you mention in your paper the trouble there is with the telephone and telegraph lines between the cities of Spokane and Wallace. Yesterday, there were 42 calls at my office and the wire was busy. I have received letters from Kratzer & McKinnis where they had wired me on April 17th, in regard to mining stock and sent me a copy of the telegram, and I have not yet received the telegram from the Western Union office.

"The service between here and Wallace is ridiculous. The Pacific States Telephone Co. has stated they have no franchise in Idaho but that they will build as many lines to the boundary line as the Rocky Mountain Bell Co. will meet them with.

"I know from experience that they could increase their revenue from $30 to $50 per day if ethey had better service. We have written a letter to the manager of the Rocky Mountain Bell Co. in this matter.

The Miner editor said that the brokers of Wallace "should not require any urging from the Miner to induce them to take steps in conjunction with the Spokane brokers looking to improved and adequate telephone and telegraph facilities."

It was a little cheaper to subscribe to THE MINER in those days, the yearly subscription rate being only $2.00 and single copies were 5 cents. Display advertising rates were $1.00 per inch per month, while a full page per month of four insertions was $60.00.

The mining district was also having some road problems in those days, a short editorial saying: "A great deal could be done by the county authorities to aid mining operations, hasten the development of various outlying sections and increase the taxable property in the county, if they would improve some of the existing roads and make county roads of them if they aren't such already. The wagon roads up Moon Creek, Terror Creek and Pine Creek, deependent on all of which are numerous working mining properties, some of them ready to produce, need improvement and regular supervision. There are doubtless others."

FIRST VALLEY TELEPHONE LINE OVER CENTURY OLD

by Wendell Brainard

It was only two years after the discovery of the great Bunker Hill lode in 1885 that the first telephone line from Spokane to Wallace was completed by W.S. Norman of Spokane.

This gave residents of the Coeur d'Alene District their first opportunity to talk with the outside world. It was so new at that time that comparatively few people in the local district had ever used a telephone.

When Mr. Norman completed the line, with a hookup to all towns between Wallace and Spokane, the experience of talking over the telephone was a novelty sought generally by the denizens of the district, who dreamed then of the possibilities of its forthcoming use in a business and social way.

At the time Mr. Norman undertook construction of his phone line, many of the old poles were still standing that had been used by the War Department in construction of a telegraph line from Fort Benton, Montana, and Fort Walla Walla, Washington, which followed the historic Mullan Road.

Miles of steel wire were strewn along the old road, having fallen from the poles through action of the elements. Mr. Norman was able to secure this old right-of-way from the government in exchange for providing the government with free phone service over his line.

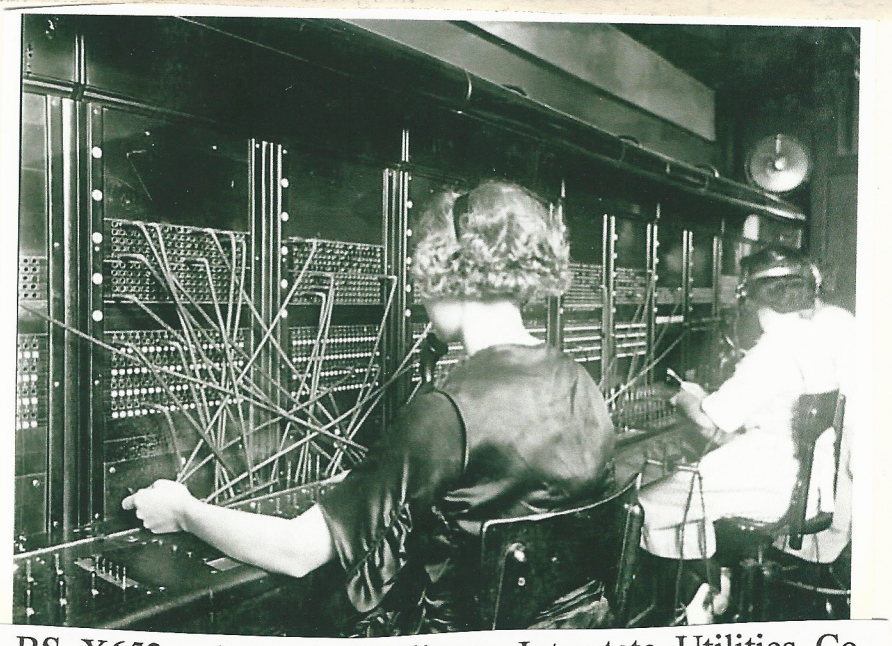
Another military telegraph line had been constructed from Fort Sherman at Coeur d'Alene to Spokane, which had also passed into disuse. Through the assistance of General Carlin, then in command at Fort Sherman, the government condemned this line and Mr. Norman bought it with the right-of-way for $25.00.

The Wallace terminal of Norman's line was in the store conducted by Mrs. L.A. Wallace, wife of Colonel W.R. Wallace, founder of the town. This store was in a two-story frame building that stood on the corner now occupied by The Smoke House. A post office had been recently established in Wallace with Mrs. Wallace as postmistress. Wallace at that time could only boast about 100 permanent residents.

In 1929, Mr. Norman made a visit to Wallace and in conversation with old friends of those early days, indulged in reminiscing connections with his important enterprise.

He recalled the swampy land that constituted the townsite, with its stumps and fallen timber that made movement after nightfall hazardous. He also recalled the old Carter House, the most pretentious hostelry in the district, and the convivial spirits who nightly gathered there, most of whom by that time had reached the end of the trail.

In subsequent years, Mr. Norman conducted the Hotel Spokane when that was the hospitable rendezvous for mining people visiting Spokane. He knew all of the men who made history in the local district.



Bs X 652 a
(W 182)
(364-5)

BS X652a (364-5) Wallace – Interstate Utilities Co.

BS X010 (374-5) Wallace – Telephone Men –
(Masonic Opera House & Stevens Meat)

Smoke House walls could tell tall tales

By Billie Shewmaker

If the walls of the old Smoke House Building could talk, what a story they would tell! The building, now under consideration for inclusion in the National register of Historic Places, has housed the supreme in legality in its time and the depths of illegality, too.

Owned by the family of Jim Petersen since 1924, the building once housed the first County Court House to be located in Wallace. Following its years of glory, the building later housed one of the city's early brothels.

And even later, a portion of the building served as the Wallace jail house. Mr. and Mrs. Jim Petersen laughed as they recounted amusing incidents they have experienced due to the building's "inglorious" past.

"We've had patron's of the brothel, who had left town years before, arrive at our door looking for their lady friends," the couple explained.

The block, built in 1890, the same year the White and Bender Buildings went up across the street, is located at the corner of Sixth and Bank streets and encompasses the Smoke House, Rullman's Mens Wear, the Wallace Electric and the old jail which is now used as a storage room and display window for the Occupational Therapy classes at the Good Samaritan Nursing Home.

Jim Petersen received notification of plans to include the building in the National Register of Historic Places in mid-March. The letters came from Dr. Merle W. Wells, State Historic Preservation Officer and H. F. Magnuson, long time member of the Site Selection Committee for the Idaho Historial Society.

Legal documents, now in the possession of Petersen, show the original patent on the block was issued by the United States of America, under the direction of President Benjamin Harrison. The patent was issued to John L. Dunn, John Cameron, George P. White, Henry E. Howes and Thomas A. Helen, trustees of the town of Wallace. The document is dated June 11, 1892.

Records show the transfer of the site through several hands and its eventual transfer to Donald R. Cameron in 1895 when the site became the locale of the Coeur d'Alene.

Several court actions are included in the records over a span of years, including one action presided over by Judge A. E. Mayhew which resulted in the site becoming the property of the County. Quit claims and title rights are also recorded.

The building probably housed the County Court House from 1892 until 1915. "The court chambers must have been located upstairs in the part we now make our home," Petersen related. He said when he first knew the building, the upstairs rooms had stoves in each room. "I still have the chimneys to prove it," he laughed.

The old vault which housed the county records is located in the Smoke House portion of the building. The walls are six feet thick on the side of the vault next to the old jail. Two steel plates are located in the walls and Petersen said it once took him eleven hours to bore through the walls to run a line into the Smoke House.

Bud Pears, proprieter of the Smoke House, now uses the antique vault as a storage room. Heavy double doors lead into the outer portico leading to the vault. An old fashioned terrazzo floor in front of the Smoke House, bears the nam "A. C. Cogswell." Cogswell operated a cigar and tobacco store and served as a mining broker in the site around 1908, according to Petersen.

Freeman Cook later operated the Smoke House which eventually became the business operation of Dom Fergolia.

Petersen, a native of Wallace, said his parents moved to the building when he was 19, after renting it out for a number of years. He recalled a movie projector, complete with seating arrangments, as a big drawing card at the Smoke House around 1908.

The old North Idaho Telephone Co. was once located in the building, Petersen said.

"At that time, Wallace had two telephone companies in competition and everyone had to have two phones if they wanted to be assured of obtaining all the numbers they wanted to reach," he said.

Although the fire of 1910 wreaked havoc with most of Wallace, the Smoke House building came through untouched. "The metal roof saved it," Petersen claimed. He said he

The Smoke House, built in 1890, is under consideration for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

piled sandbags two-deep all around the building during the 1933 flood. "We were one of the few places not to get water that time," he pointed out.

The history of the building brought to light the operation of the city's first Ski Shop, which was combined by Best and Bradshaw with a photographer's shop.

Petersen said the foundation for the building was constructed of cedar lagging because the building was built over an old swamp. He later converted the cedar lagging to a concrete foundation.

Born in the old Providence Hospital in 1906 to Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Petersen, Jim Petersen grew up in homes located at 204 Fourth street and at 420 Pine Stret. He recalled that the building which has been in his family for 52 years was once the subject of lengthy proceedings which ended when the county sold the property to a clothier at public auction.

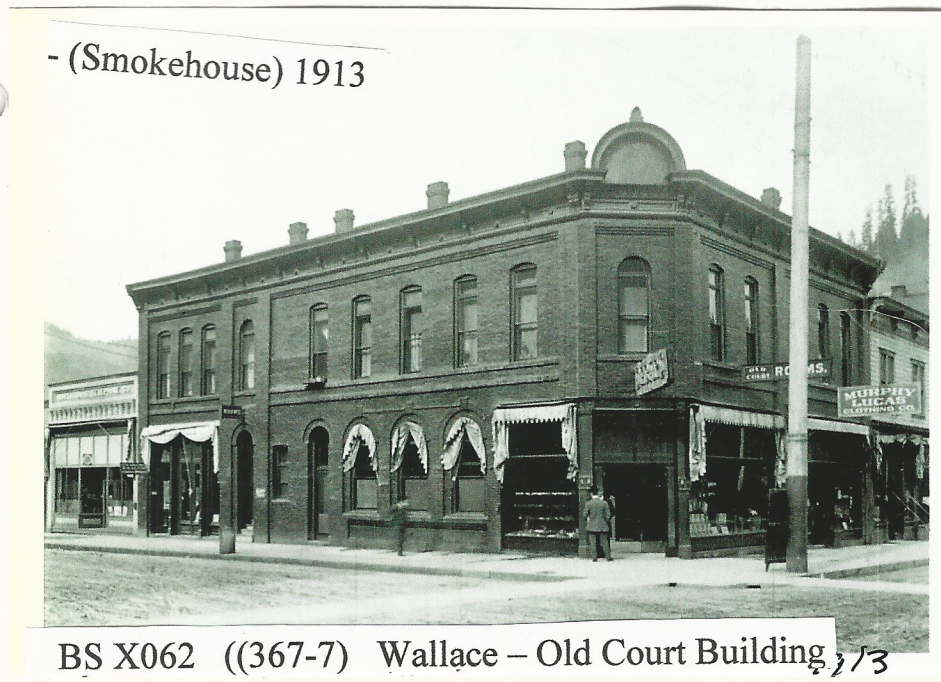
A court action in 1915 featured the presiding Judge, W.W. Woods and attorneys, A. G. Kerns and J. E. Gyde.

Petersen operated at Radio and Electric Supply Shop at 507 Bank street in 1924. He later attended the University of Idaho where he received his degree in electrical engineering.

His wife, the former Eleanor Martin, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Martin, spent a portion of her childhood in Wallace when her father served as pastor of the Wallace-Burke United Methodist Church. However, she didn't meet her future husband until she was attending Nurse's Training at Deaconess Hospital in Spokane.

He was employed by the Washington Water Power in Spokane at the time. Following their marriage, he brought his bride home to the historic building which had been his home since his teen age years.

With the arrival of their daughter, Karlene, the family moved to a home in Wallace where they remained until Karlene was grown and their son, James Jr., was in his junior year in high school. They then returned to the Smoke House Building where they still reside.



- (Smokehouse) 1913

BS X062 ((367-7) Wallace – Old Court Building, 1913

18

Fifth and Bank was her corner until 1937

By BILLIE SHEWMAKER

Shakespeare wrote, "It's an ill wind that doesn't blow some good," and in the case of Mary Pannebaker and others like her, the ill wind which led women to careers in the postal department in Wallace was World War I.

The war opened the door to permit women to work in the Wallace Post Office when men like Glynn Evans, Harold Heyer and Phillip Pifer, all postal employees, donned the uniform of their country and went off to bear arms back in 1917.

"Before that time, women had never worked in the post office here," Mary said. "And that was one place where women were given equal pay for equal work," she added.

She graduated valedictorian of the the Wallace High School's class of 1917 and after working briefly for Otterson's Department Store in Wallace, went to work at the post office. Postage stamps were selling at two cents each back in 1918 when she first started her career. The postmaster at the time was John Whelan. Whelan's son was among the young men who went away to war and who died from the flu epidemic while enroute home from Europe after the Armistice was signed.

During her 47 years at the post office, Mary worked under postmasters M.A. Corner, R.E. Weniger and LeRoy Harris.

Mary was born Sept. 27, 1899, in the family home on the corner of 5th and Bank streets in Wallace. The post office where she spent a number of years was also located on that same corner, just across from her birthplace.

Built by her father, Joshua Pannebaker, a pioneer Wallace carpenter, the home still stands today. It is the first residence after leaving the city's Bank street commerical district.

Mary's father first came to Wallace in 1891 from Canada. He received his citizenship papers in Murray, then the county seat. He left for a time and then returned to build his first home and later to bring his bride, Barbara Basler Pannebaker, to that home.

"But my father was already established here by then ," Mary explained. "He owned a building east of where the Hecla offices now stand." That building was destroyed in the great fire of 1910, she said. Joshua Pannebaker is credited with the construction of many homes and buildings in Wallace, among them, the Wallace Methodist Church. Old papers show that he was awarded the contract to build the church for a sum of $2,150. The fire of 1910 was possibly the only time in her life when Mary experienced fear. Not one to frighten easily, she can still recall the anxiety she felt when the flames began to climb over the crest of the hill in back of her home. By then, her father had built another home on Elm street, in back of their home on Bank street.

"My mother, my brother Ralph and my sister, Elizabeth, who was a baby, and I were all evacuated by train to Spokane. The men, including my father, remained to fight fire," she said.

After several days with relatives in Spokane, they returned home, relieved to find their place still standing.

"Much of the eastern part of town, as well as homes on that half of the hillside, was gone," Mary remembered. She still can't understand why their home and others on that side of the hill were spared.

"It must have been a shift in the wind," she said. "It wasn't because of anything anyone did to stop it — there wasn't anything they could do," she added.

Two years after the fire, her father took the insurance money he'd received from the loss of his offices on Cedar street and purchased the old Judge Clagett home in Osburn. The eight room, two story home, was built along colonial lines and was, for years, a landmark in Osburn. Pannebaker used his skills to update and improve the home, his daughter said. The home, thought to have been one of the earliest in Osburn, was razed in 1965 to make room for the IGA store there.

Mary started school in Wallace in a building situated on the ground where the present day grade school is located.

Her father drove her to and from school in a horse and buggy after the family moved to Osburn. On occasion, he'd take her to her friend, Mary Rheinhardt's home in Silverton, then called "West Wallace," and the girls would walk from Silverton to Wallace. Mary was often an overnight guest at the Rheinhardt home during her high school years.

"Many students boarded in Wallace just to attend school back in those years," Mary explained.

Osburn consisted of not more than a dozen houses and a small store when she moved here in 1912. The place on East Larch, which she now calls home, was "All Dunkle Gardens" then, she said.

Mary's funny bone is very near the surface and she related an incident which involved her family's first car. The story concerned her brother Ralph, who was 16 at the time. The year was 1917.

"My folks sent him to Wallace to bring home a Model T Ford," Mary said, weak with laughter. The hours of the day dragged slowly as the family waited, and still Ralph didn't return. Finally, well after dark, an ashamed and weary youth arrived home, minus the long anticipated new car.

"He had spent the day walking the streets of Wallace, afraid to go pick up the car," Mary laughed. She explained, "In those days the only driver-training education you received was from the dealer at the time of the purchase. He'd take you out and in one lesson, teach you how to drive!"

The following day, Ralph mustered up his courage and once more returned to Wallace to buy the car. He soon returned home, a proud young man, behind the wheel of a Model T.

"My parents never learned to drive and Ralph wouldn't teach me," Mary said, adding, "But I did drive the Model T a few times." In 1923, Ralph and Mary pooled their resources and together, purchased a Dodge touring car. Mary has been driving steadily from that year on.

"You didn't have to have a driver's license back then — I don't know just when that requirement came into effect," she said.

She remembers too, the first phone installed in her home when she was a girl. "Someone called me and when I heard the voice coming over the phone, I couldn't utter a sound!"

Back in 1933 when one of the worst floods in the history of this area struck, Mary, her brother, who was a mail carrier in Wallace, Mrs. Lou Clinton and a few of the men from the Wallace Post Office, carried the mail into Wallace on foot to sort it. The mail was brought to Osburn by plane since the tracks, roads and many bridges were washed out.

"We'd drive the car as far as we could, park it, then hike on to town," she said. The first day of the flood, she recalls returning to Osburn by walking along the hillside north of Wallace.

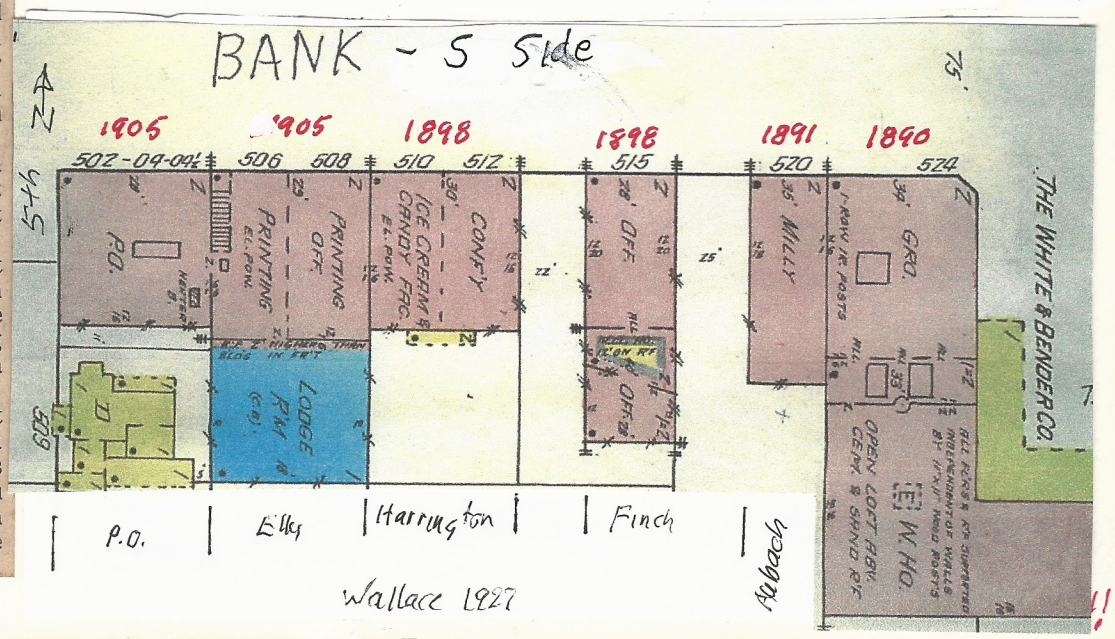
Mary, born on the corner of Fifth and Bank streets, finally left that corner for good when the new Wallace Post Office was completed in 1937.

A tree grows in Wallace

This home on the corner of 5th and Bank streets was built by Joshua Pannebake. His daugther, Mary Pannebaker was born there in 1899. The Pannebakers are shown in the foreground and Ralph Pannebaker, Mary's young brother, is shown on a hobby horse in the yard. Others pictured were neighbors. The tree to the left of the home is barely window high. Today it is the massive evergreen which is decorated by the City of Wallace each Christmas.

5th St to 6th St SOUTH

19



5TH ST. STAIRS

BS B356-8 (126-7) Fifth Street Steps

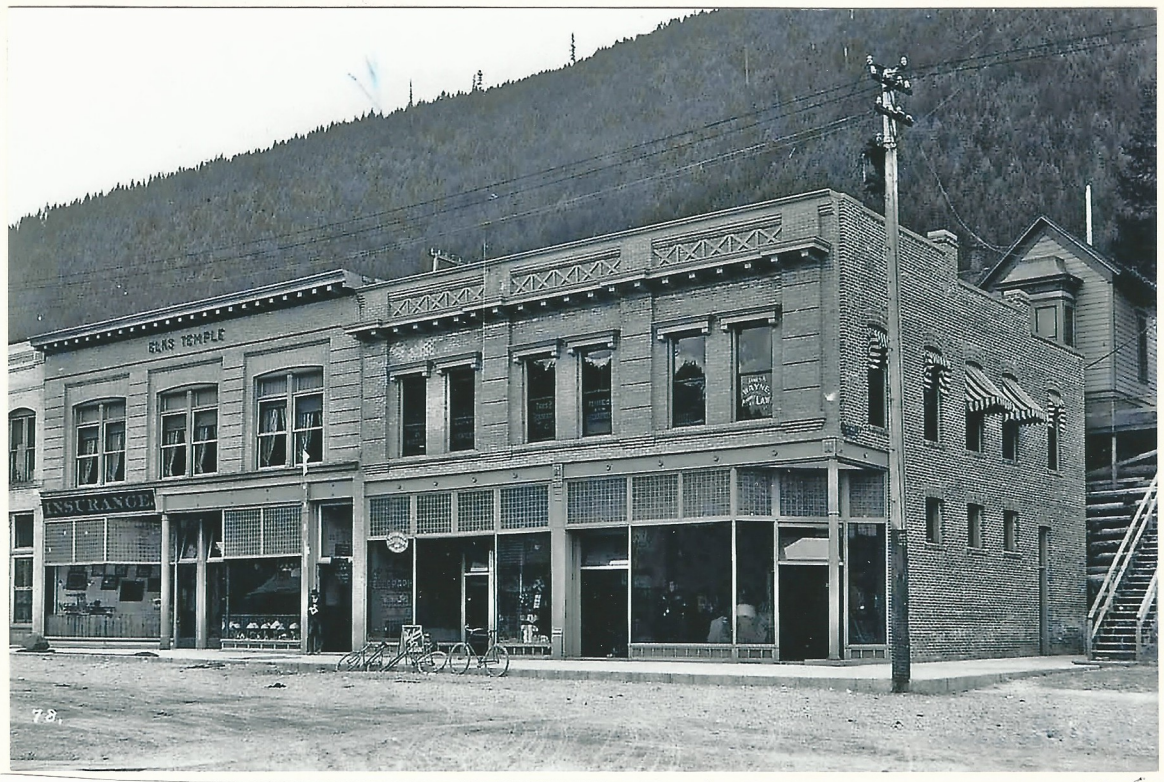
BS B356-7 (126-6 ,Fifth Street Steps

BS B436 (126-5) Fifth Street Steps in Wallace

The picture that ran in last Tuesday's Press of the old Post Office has been identified. Clarence Presley, Wallace, recognized the picture right off. The location of the old post-office was at 502 Bank Street, where the Gardner Denver Co. store is located at present. The men pictured were (left to right) McDaniel's (first name not recollected), a clerk at the P.O., John Ruebke, also a clerk, Rod McLeoud, Assistant Postmaster and Chris Mattis, Registry Clerk. The picture was estimated being taken around 1912 or possibly before. Mr. Presley made the remark when seeing the picture, "I don't know why my father wasn't in that picture, as he was Postmaster at the time." The identification of the picture is greatly appreciated, as it now has a name and some meaning to it when people view it at the local museum. The picture of "The Nevada House" which was published in Thursday's paper, still has not been identified, but several people have claimed it to have been in Murray, Wallace and Wardner. We are hoping someone may have an answer to the inquiry perhaps in some old family album or pictures in the attic.

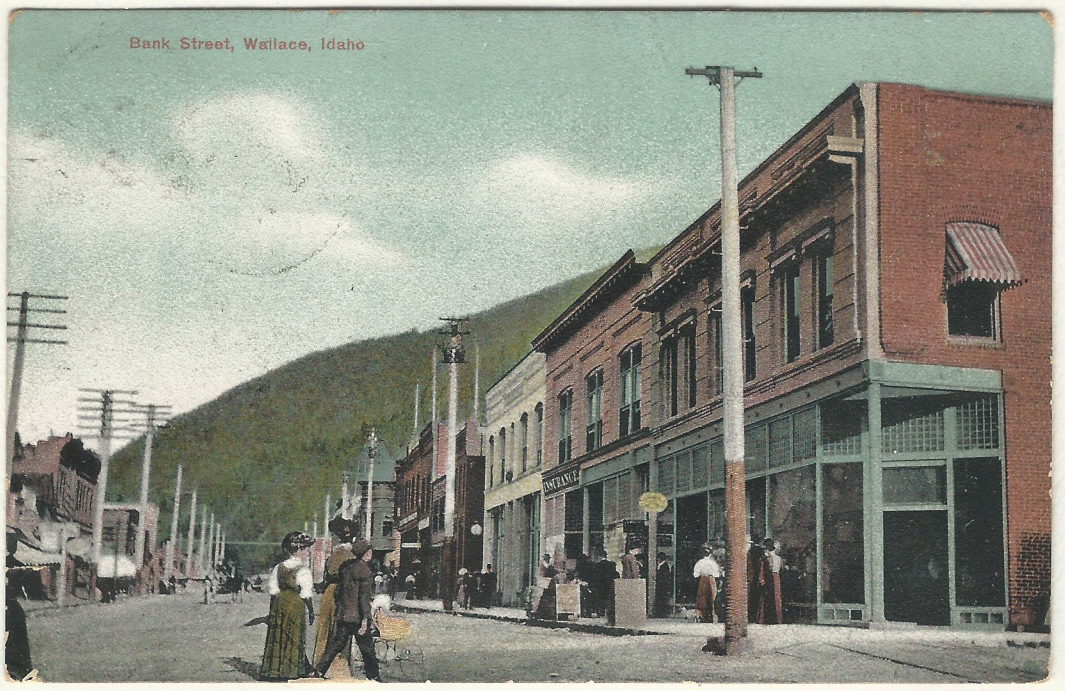
POST OFICE & ELKS

BS B522 (173-10) Independent Order of Odd Fellows Building

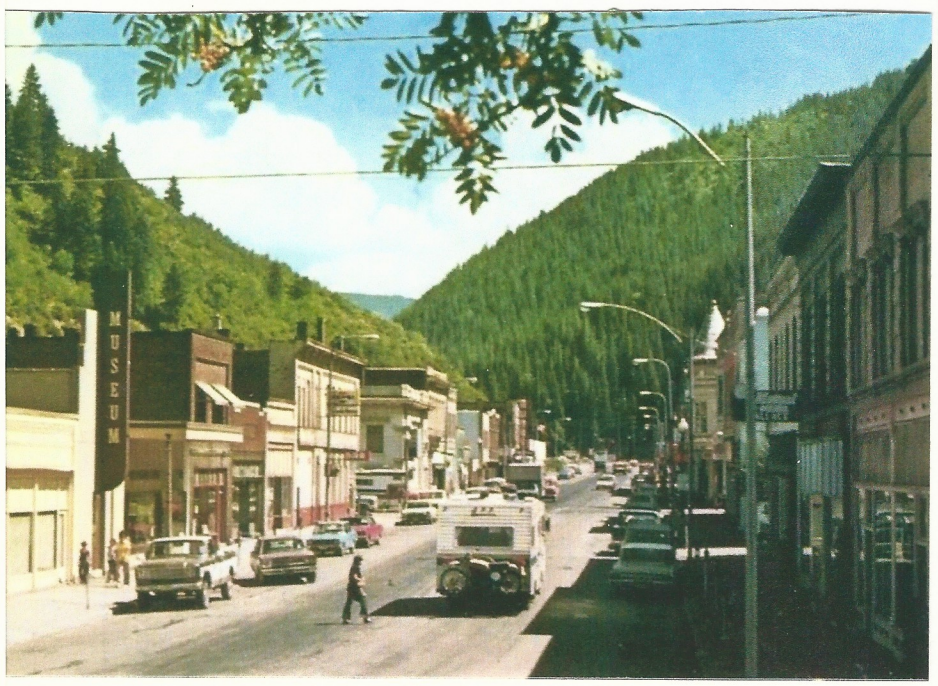


BS X078 (357-2) Wallace – Elks Block – 1906

1906



WS-Bnk-e 10 Cc



BS X079 (357-4) Wallace – Elks Temple – 1906

5

22

$75 to $100 Saved by Buying a Piano from the Wallace Piano Co.

NOTHING NICER FOR A CHRISTMAS PRESENT

WE CARRY THE WORLD'S BEST PIANOS, SUCH AS IVERS & POND, "ACOUNTIGRANDE MADE BY CHICKERING BROS., HARDMAN, CABLE-NELSON, WEBER PIANOS OF BEST MAKE

FULL LINE OF EDISON VICTOR AND COLUMBIA PHONOGRAPHS AND RECORDS.

520 BANK STREET, WALLACE, NEXT TO WHITE & BENDER CO., H. M. HEUMANN, PRO

520 Bank

BS C50 (162-9) Herman J. Rossi

1948

HERRINGTON 7 FINCH BLDG.

Finch Building

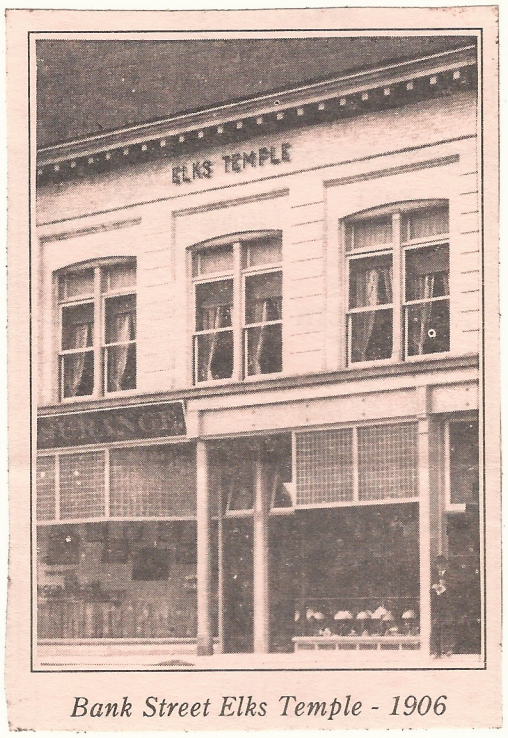
The two-story brick block Finch Building was constructed in 1892 on Bank street and has been painted white. It has served many years as office space for local mining companies.

BS B450a (120-) Elks Temple (Steward Drug Aulbach, Herrington, Elks)

Herrington Building

The Herrington Hotel on Bank street was built in 1898 by Herman Rossi. It has its original facade, including cast iron pilasters.

38. THE HERRINGTON HOTEL (1898), 512 BANK STREET. Built by Herman Rossi, this two-story brick building now provides apartment dwellings in the downtown historic district. The second story facade is still intact.



Bank Street Elks Temple - 1906

39. ELKS LODGE HALL (1905), 506 and 508 BANK STREET. Designed by Pruesse and Zittle of Spokane. Original two-story brick building contained three bays, general mercantile and post office. The second story retains the original windows and cast iron pilasters on the first floor. This is the site of the first Elks Lodge in Wallace, instituted on Jan. 4, 1896. W.S. Haskins was chosen as the first Exalted Ruler. The new lodge was built on Fifth Street in 1905. Notice the elk footprints in the sidewalk outside the entrance to the former lodge.

BS X 061 (357-3) Wallace Elks Temple - 1905

I think this is Elks - we had dances upstairs in 50's

P.O. & offices

36. AULBACH BUILDING (1890), 520 BANK STREET. Built by owner Adam Aulbach, editor-in-chief of the Wallace Free Press, who came over the hill from Murray. He operated a print shop in the back with power from Printer's Creek. This creek is routed under the building, through Wallace, and drains into the South Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River. This building housed the paper on the first floor and the Masonic Temple on the second, before the original temple was built on Hotel Street in 1896.

37. FINCH BUILDING, 516 BANK STREET. Built for John Finch, early operator of the Standard Mammoth Mine with Amos B. Campbell. These two internally-connected buildings present a common facade. This is quite noticeable since the paint was removed in the late '70s. The wood structure which had occupied this spot was a women's apparel shop. ASARCO's corporate office occupied this building until 1992. The film "Dante's Peak" used this site as its headquarters in 1996.

Other discoveries uncovered in the box of treasures, include a fine toothed, double edged aluminum comb, an old eversharp and fountain pen, a minature, slanted corn-parer and an antique cork-screw.

Harwood dug out an old "flyer" announcing the film, "Speedy," starring Harold Lloyd, at the Grand Theater. Early day Wallacites are pictured in the flyer, gathered around a horse-drawn buggy. Mincing no words, the advertising reads: "After You've laughed Yourself Sick at 'Speed' It's Wallace Drug Service That You Need!"

Not much is left to the imagination in the headlines of stories appearing in one of Harwood's 1929 issues of the Wallace Evening News. The caption for one story tells of a man who was filing suit for divorce because his wife had been intoxicated three times a week for three years. It reads: "Heavy Drinking Wife."

Another brings back memories of prohibition days with its caption, "Smelter Man Nabbed On Booze Charge."

State Hall of Famer, Firpo Bardelli's expertise in the ring is made clear under the heading, "Firpo Kayoes Ball."

The newspaper was saved because of the One Cent Sale advertised by Rexall Drug Store, Harwood speculated.

Hinkle's Pills were offered at two for fifty-one cents, while lotions, hair dressing and toothpastes were either selling at very high prices for that day or haven't kept pace with today's inflation. The prices are remarkably unchanged which prompted the druggist to observe: "Your prescription is still the best investment you can make." He cited the short time spent in hospitals today and the many who escape going to a hospital at all because of modern drugs.

Pouring over his collection of antique apothecaries and the contents of his cigar box time capsule, Dan Harwood looks perfectly at home in the nostalgic, soda fountain setting of his new "Bicentennial Corner." Growing up in his father's drugstore, he no doubt mastered the art of soda-jerking before he learned the difference between walnut and wormwood leaves and their uses. And although the old soda fountain is gone, the atmosphere is back and if you don't mind bottled soda pop or pre-packaged sundaes, you just might stop in and recapture a bit of the past, if only for an hour or so.

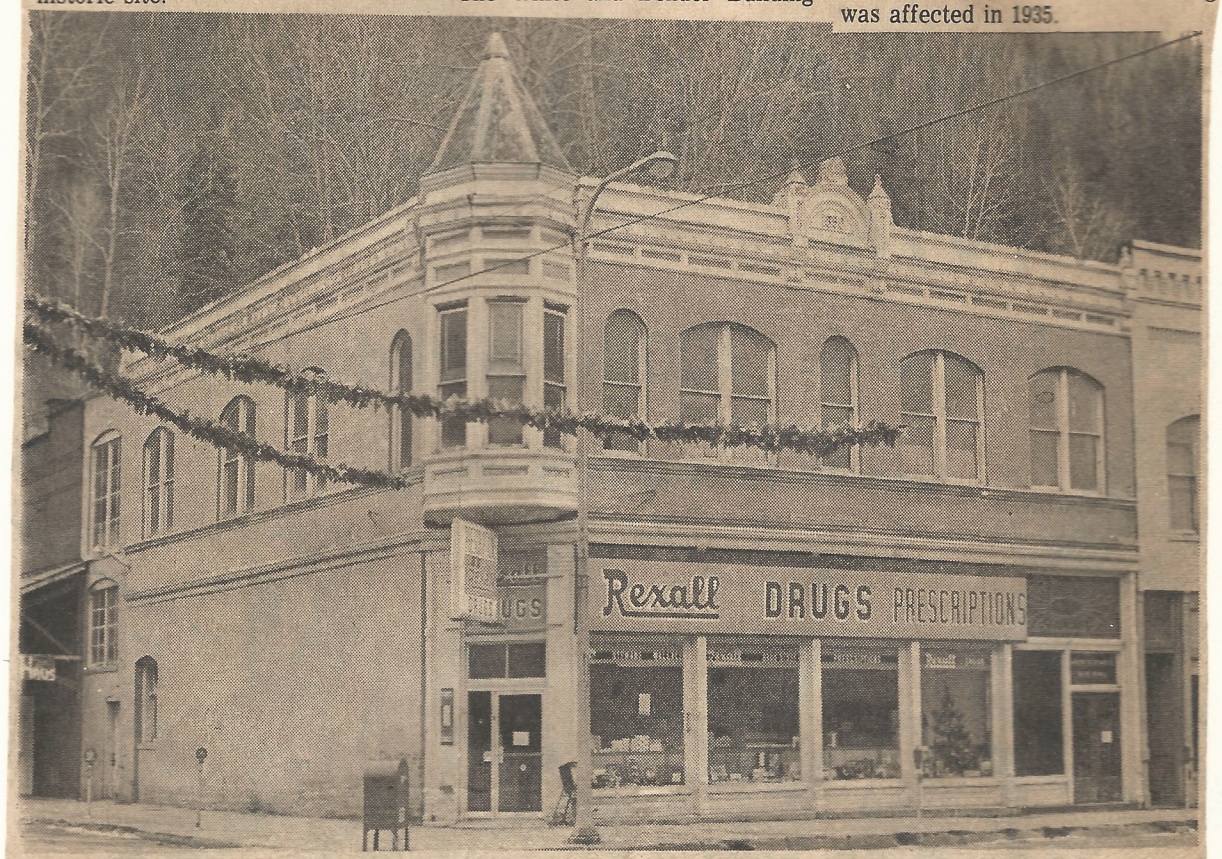
White and Bender Building nominated as historical landmark

The White and Bender Building which presently houses Steward-Wallace Rexall Drugs, has been nominated by the Historical Site Selection Committee as a national historic site.

The nomination was made to the Idaho State Historical Society in Boise which will forward the necessary forms to the National Park Service for their designation.

The White and Bender Building was erected in 1890 and for many years was the site of a wholesale-retail grocery store.

In 1930, Steward-Wallace Rexall Drugs moved to that location, and has been there since. A remodelling was affected in 1935.



White and Bender Building nominated as national historic site by Historical Site Selection Committee.

35. WHITE AND BENDER BUILDING (1890), 524 BANK STREET. It is one of the nicest Queen Anne commercial sites. The tower was originally built in accordance with the architect's plans. White and Bender Company expanded from Murray in 1888. The company opened shop on the corner of Sixth and Bank streets while the fire of 1890 was still smoking — in a tented structure at first. White and Bender was a retail/wholesale mercantile well into the 1930s. The company then became a finance company and a leader in public financing such as appliances and automobiles. The Wine Cellar displays the original White and Bender shelving. White and Bender were the first to install electric lights in Wallace. It held the Stewart Wallace Drug and Seelig Water Company until becoming Silver Capital Arts in 1984.

Harwood's Apothecary tins contain medicinal basics

By Billie Shewmaker

Remember when a stop at your neighborhood drugstore didn't necessarily mean having. a prescription filled, but often signaled a friendly get-together with acquantances over an ice cream sundae or a chocolate soda?

The familiar ice cream parlor set, with its dainty round topped table and matching chairs with their intricately laced underpinnings made of metal? When soda fountains and drug stores were synonomous?

Although the sundies now come pre-packaged and the soda pop is dispensed from a machine, the old atmosphere is back at Dan Harwood's drugstore in Wallace. It's his contribution to the bicentennial year.

The ice cream parlor set belongs to Harwood's father, Arthur J. Harwood, Mullan pharmacist for the past 70 years.

"Dad still has the old marble soda fountain in his place," his son boasted. "And it is a beaut," he added.

Arthur Harwood's pharmacy is housed in a building constructed in 1903 while his son practices the ancient art of pharmacy in a building constructed in 1890 and designated as one of the state's historical buildings.

Seated at the 1894 vintage table, one can look upward to view an elaborate pressed metal ceiling, one which as attracted historians from far and near.

"We thought about installing a soda fountain here," Faye Harwood, wife of Dan Harwood, said, "But there were just too many restrictions."

A folding, ornate oak table, which can be converted into display shelves, has been placed close to the table and chair set, and in honor of the occasion, is hosting a wide variety of green apothecary tins, filled with the crude medicinal basics of yester-year. The table-shelf combo bears the craftsman's marking of 1896.

Harwood opened several of the apothecary tins to reveal old time-honored remedies, ranging from packets of white oak bark, white poplar, walnut and wormwood leaves to spikenhard.

"When I first started in the business, we made our prescriptions from seratch," Harwood explained. "They were what we called shot-gun prescriptions and had everything in them but the kitchen sink," he laughed.

He indicated that many of the ingredients used in the early day pharmaceutical practice are still used today and have been handed down from time immemorial.

"After all," he laughingly admitted, "We are the second oldest profession in the world."

Many of the tins, medications and antique apothecary bottles will be featured in Harwood's "Slippery Gulch" window display.

An old record book, dating back perhaps one hundred years and once the property of pioneer druggist, E. L. Proebsting, provides fascinating reading. Containing clippings from old pharmaceutical journals, the book is proof of the early druggist's continued efforts to remain abreast of new discoveries in his field.

Many of the clippings are above the layman's comprehension, with high sounding clinical and medicinal terms. However some are out-right humorous when viewed from the sophistication of the twentieth century.

"We don't have many calls for Moustache Fixing Fluid anymore," Harwood said, pointing to an item in the book.

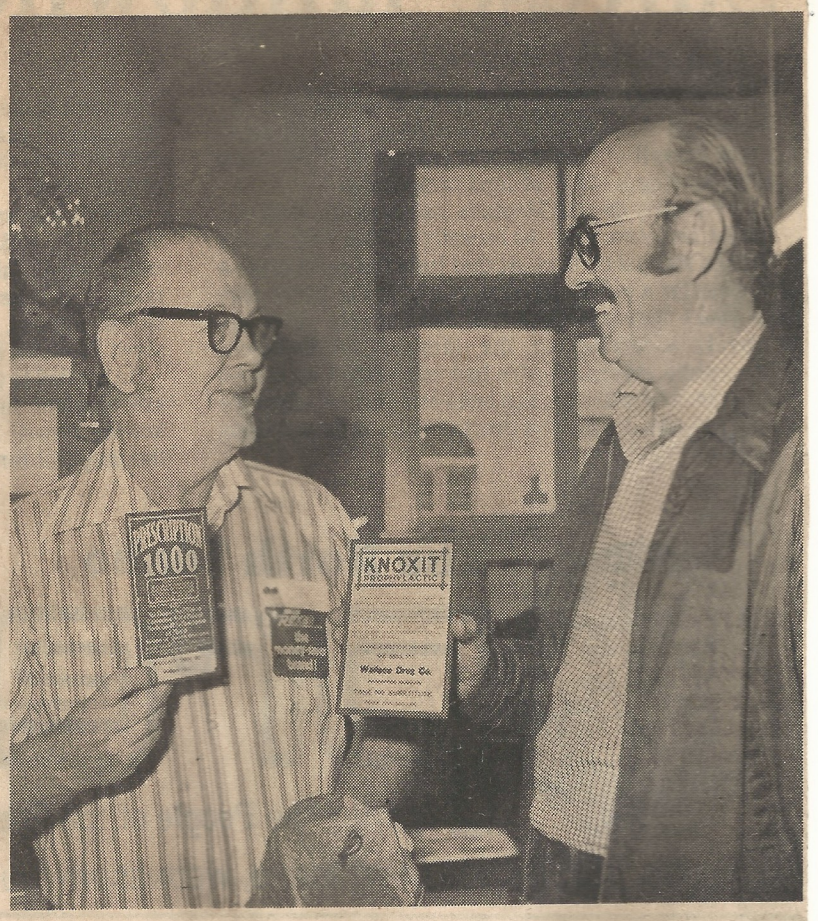
Another page offers an inebriety cure and another cautions, "For unbroken Chilbains Only."

A break-through for acne sufferers is promised in one clipping, entitled, "A New Pimple Cure." And the old formula for a hair restorer might still be worth a try.

The book features the original formula for Pitcher's Castoria and remedies for flabby ulcers and all manner of diarrhea.

A side storage room in the historic old building reveals shelves reaching to the extremely high ceilings. An attached, curved ladder, moves easily along the shelves and allows one to climb to a attitude of fourteen feet. Emerging from the old storage room, Harwood produced a cigar box filled with enough antiques to make a collector's head swim.

Midget sized curling irons with wooden handles, small enough to fit in the palm of a lady's hand, still bear the 25 cent price tags. Their price in today's market would no doubt make a dent in almost anyone's pocketbook.



Dan Harwood, shows Lennis Hill some of the old signs that grace many of the men's rooms of the district. These were just a few of the antique items he found in his old Steward Wallace Drug Stoe. Some of the prescriptions date back before the turn of the century and many items are now on display at his 6th and Bank Street Pharmacy.

White-Bender Building

The 1890 White-Bender Building at Sixth and Bank streets is distinguished by its pressed metal turret and cornice and beveled glass first story transoms. White-Bender was the major wholesale distributing company in the early days of the Coeur d'Alene Mining District.

Grocery interior

The White & Bender Company grocery store had lots of floor space and well stocked shelves in this 1902 photograph. Crackers can be noted in the boxes on the left and apples are in the boxes on the floor to the right. A large coffee grinder is visible behind the counter in the center of the picture. Silver Capital Arts occupies this space today. (Photo courtesy of Judge Richard Magnuson)

HISTORY OF BUILDING

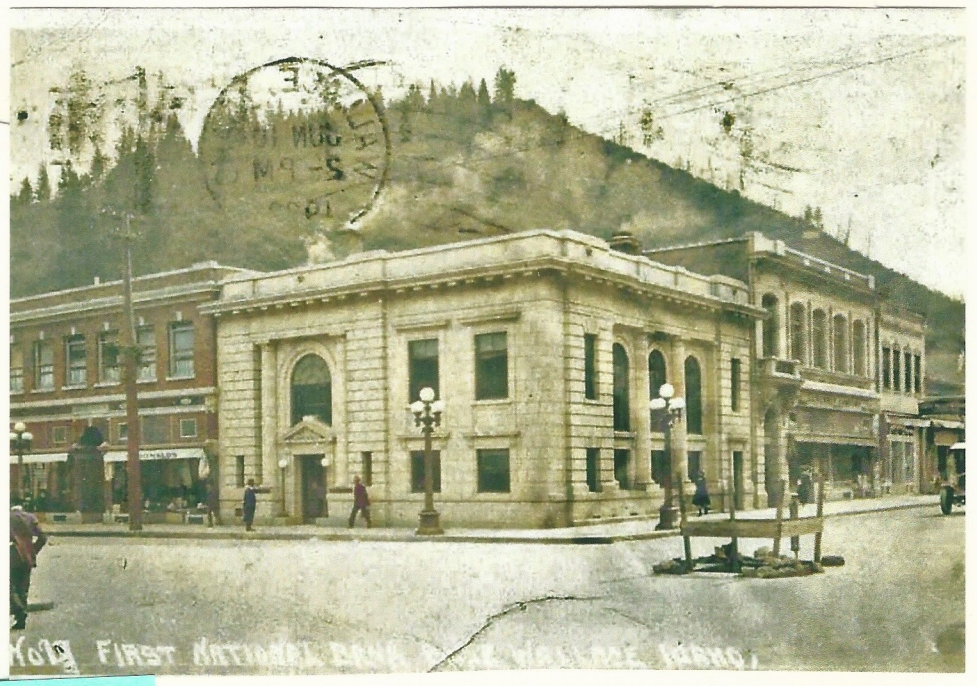
Harry White and Charles Bender were grocers in Murray, Idaho. In late 1889, they purchased George and Herman's grocery in Wallace, which became the center of their business.

On July 27, 1890, the business district of Wallace was destroyed by fire. However, before the smoke had cleared, plans for rebuilding were under way. The largest of the brick buildings constructed in the summer of 1890 was the White and Bender building, which was occupied in October.

Designed in Queen Anne style, the White and Bender building is regarded as one of the finest examples of Queen Anne commercial architecture in the United States. The exterior features of the building remain unchanged, with the exception of the window at the rear of the building.

This was originally a doorway opening onto Sixth Street. The interior was remodeled in 1930 and is virtually unchanged today.

The unique round steam radiator is still in use. Residents of Wallace have been weighing on the store's Toledo scales for a half century.



#4 First Nat'l Bank
Wallace, Idaho

1918 - Base for Statue

T - 36 189 Sixth and Bank Street, July, 1936

BS B264-2 (42-1) Bank Street (03) – 7/11/33

38

BS B129-1 (41-10) Bank Streeet (0) - 7/11/33

BS 406-6 (42-5) Bank Street in Walace (02) – 1951

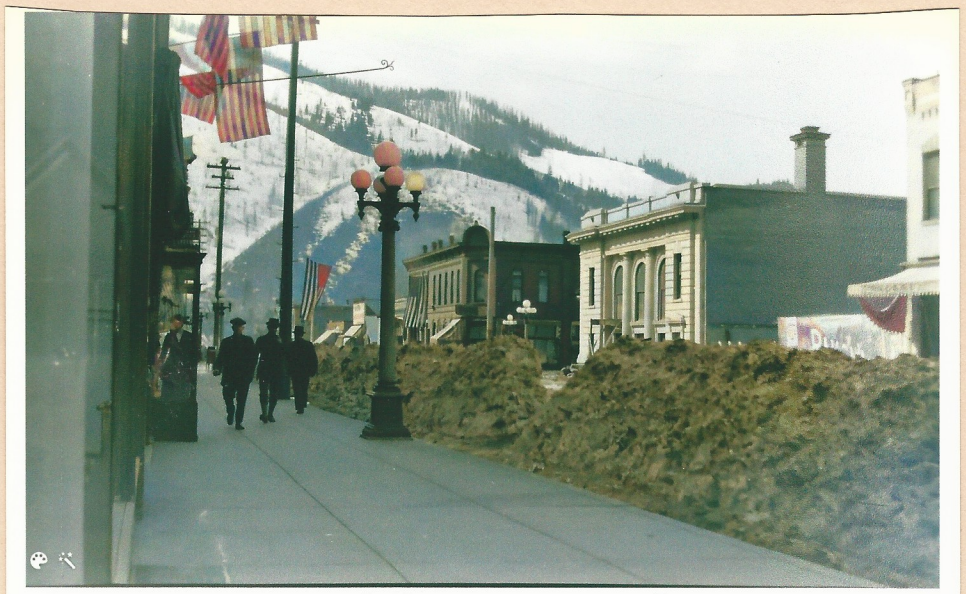
T - 36 - 118 Downtown Wallace, 1933 – 1938

T - 36 -119 Sixth and Bank Street, Looking East (02),

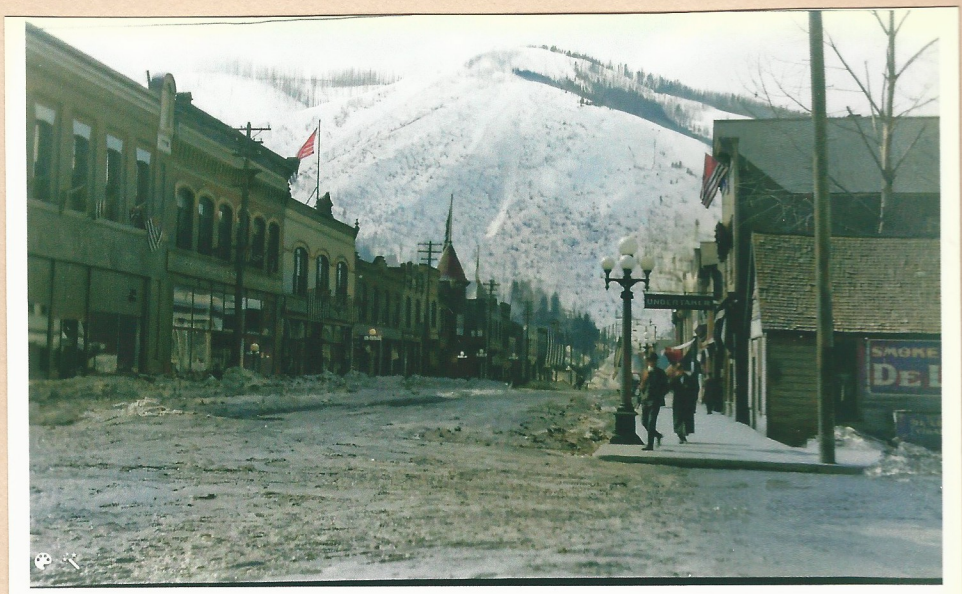
6th St to 7th St

29

1933 -1938



before 1917 Smoke House FNB Stevens



BS B264-1 (42-2) Bank Street (04) – 7/11/33

7th & Bank Home of Joy Auto Race Worstells

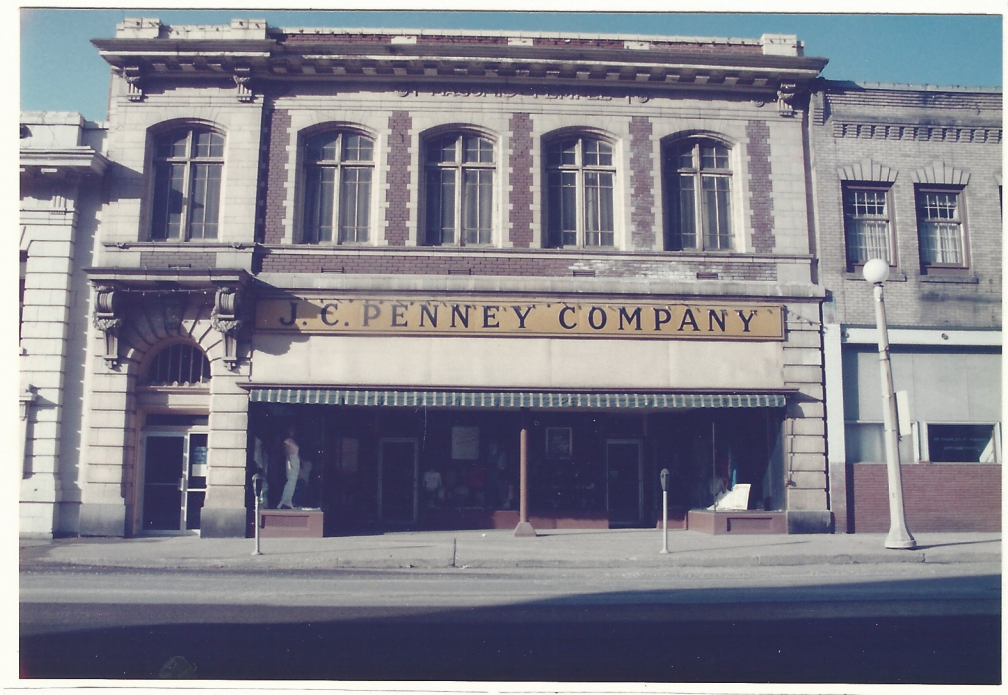
T - 36 142 Interior - Stones Food Store , 23 Apr., 1936

T-42-21 7-4-42

T - 42 - 72 July Fourth Parade, 4 July 1942

Stone's moved from Tabor Bldg to Hale Building 2-22-41

31. FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING (1917), 419 SIXTH STREET. This second renaissance revival, white terra cotta structure is distinguished by its engaged doric columns, round arched windows, pedimented entry, cornice and parapet. The building went through extensive restoration in the 1980s and received the Orchid Award from the Idaho State Historic Society in 1988. Built originally to house the First National Bank of Wallace, it was chartered in 1892. This was the first nationally chartered bank in Shoshone County. The First National Bank was a prominent player in the economic development of Spokane, Wash., and the Inland Empire.



27. MASONIC HALL AND TEMPLE (1917), 605 BANK STREET. This is a two-story brick building with terra cotta and granite trim. Design by G.I. Hubbell of Spokane. It is distinguished by the extensive use of terra cotta on the second story and a round-arched entry with bracketed curved and denticulated cornice. The original Masonic Hall at Hotel and Sixth Streets was used for jury trials until fire destroyed it in 1915. The street level of this structure was built to house a commercial business, while the lodge conducted business upstairs. The organization is still active.

26. STEVENS BUILDING (1906), 607 BANK STREET. This two-story brick building is minus the original brick cornice but it retains the corbelled brick lintels and stepped bandline. The second story has the original window arrangement with lintels done in keystone motif.

22. HALE BUILDING (1905), 621 BANK STREET. This two-story red brick building retains most of its early appearance on the second floor with terra cotta trim.

T - 58 - 61 Interior – J. C. Penny Store.

24 May 1958

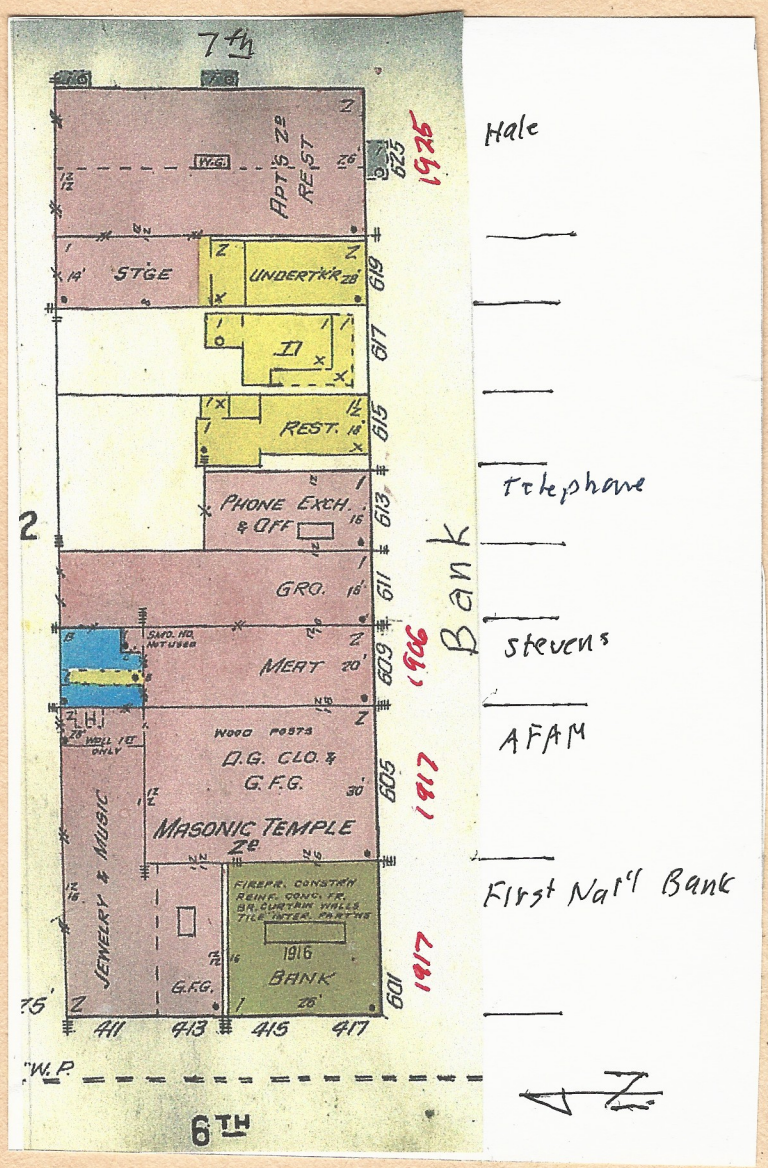
BS X598 (344-10 Wallace -J. C. Co. – Penny Co. – 1920

1926

T - 40 – 24 Table Supply, - 17 Oct., 1940

T - 58 - 60 J. C. Penney CO., 24 May 1958

Stevens meat co.



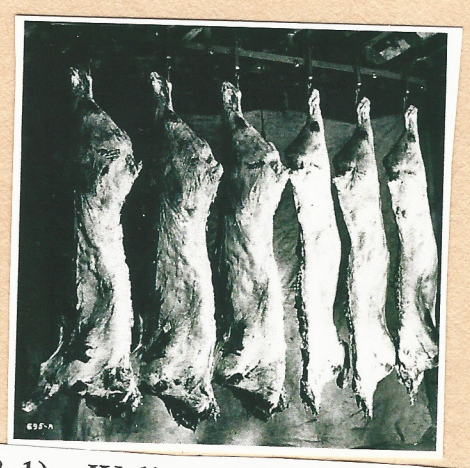
BS x758g ((211-6) Morrows Retail Store (10) -Crowley – 1925

609 611 613 1925 611

Masonic Temple

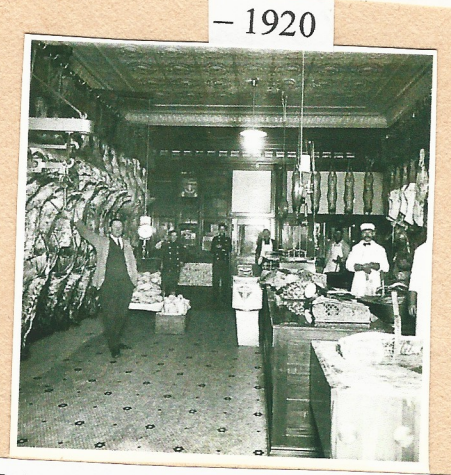
BS X694 (353-3) Wallace - City Meat Market (03) – 1920

SC9 1920



1920

BS B695b (353-1) Wallace -City Meat Market (01) – 1920



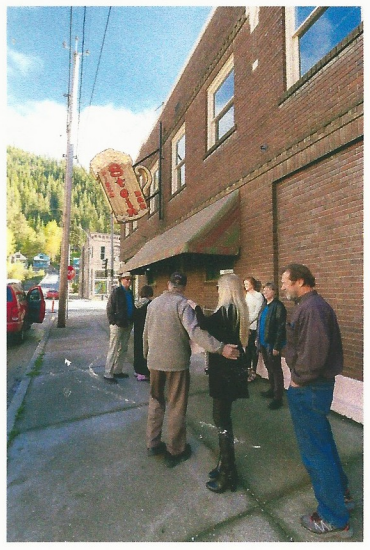
BS O105-2 (300-6) (Stevens Meat

BS 695a (W231)

BS A258 (372-9) Wallace – Stevens Meat Market – 1920

T - 40 - 27 Table , Supply, 17 Oct. 1940

Table Supply
Elders Variety Store
←
Table Supply
different than
previous page
—
Elders in Stevens
Bldg.

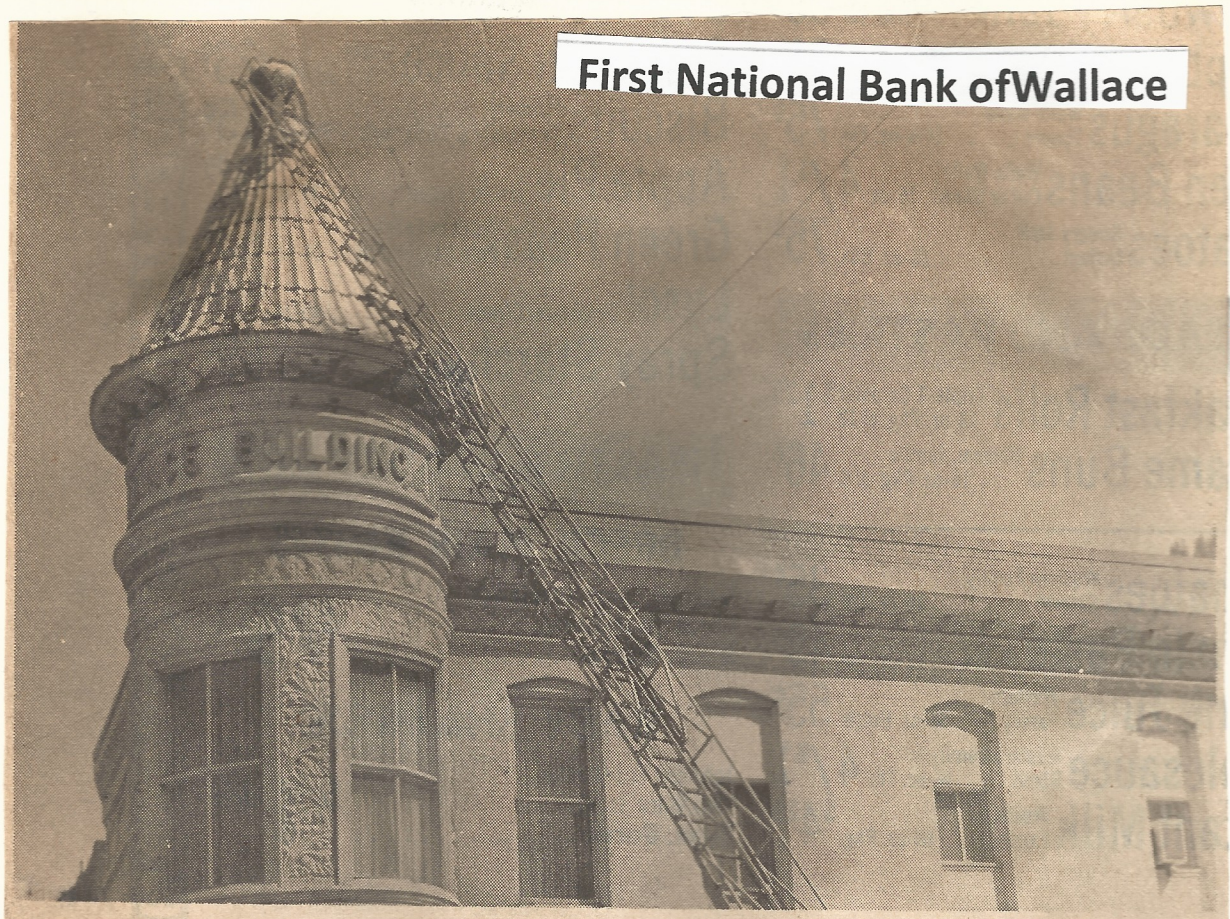


Stein Club in Basement off 7th St.

T - 40 - 27 Table Supply Sale, 17 Oct., 1940

BS A276 (323-4) Telephone Co. (01) Bank St.

First National Bank ofWallace



Historic site nominee, Rossi Insurance Building, gets a "face-lift" designed to bring back original appearance.

Rossi Insurance building another historic nominee

The Rossi Insurance Agency building is another of the local edifaces nominated by the Historic Site Selection Committee as a National Historic Site.

This building was erected in 1890 and originally housed the First National Bank of Wallace. The bank moved to a new location in 1916 and is now known as the First National Bank of North Idaho.

The second floor of the building was added in 1910 and served as offices for local mining companies. That floor was remodeled in 1971 as apartments.

The old building withstood the 1910 fire and subsequent floods from Printer Creek. A "face-lift" project is in progress now to bring the building back to its original appearance.

The First National Bank of North Idaho is the oldest bank in the county, and was the original bank for the early-day community.

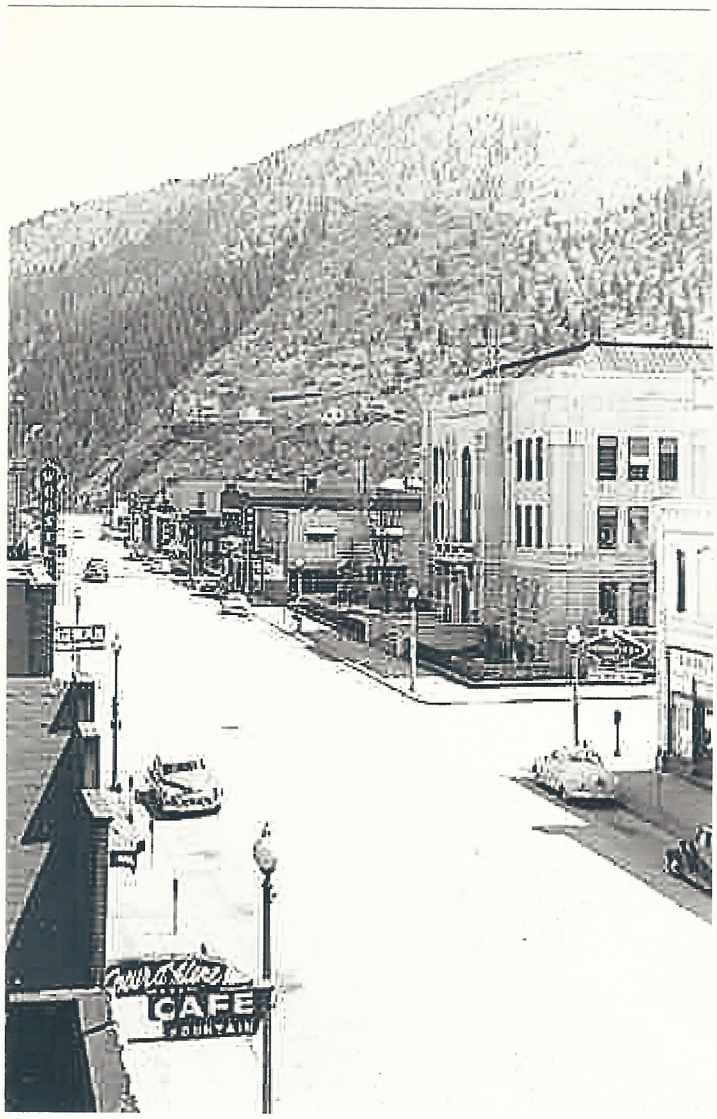
It was established in 1892, and first occupied the current Rossi Insurance Building across from its current location.

In July, 1917, the bank moved to its present location at 419 6th street in Wallace.

The First National Bank of North Idaho, as pictured here prior to 1898, occupied this building on the southeast corner of 6th and Bank streets. The second story of the building was added some time later, but the original building is still in service as the Rossi Building.

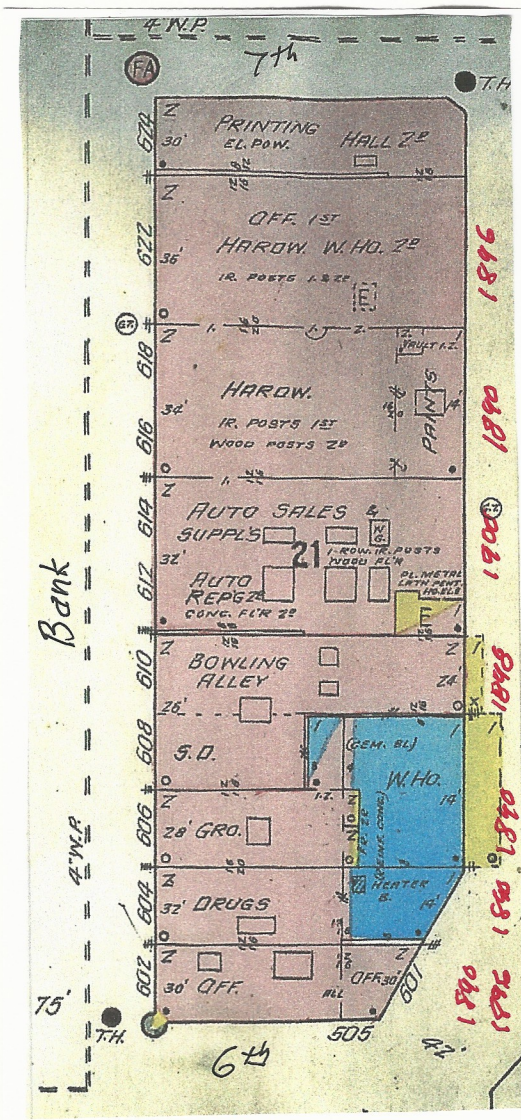
1916

6th St to 7th St SOUTH



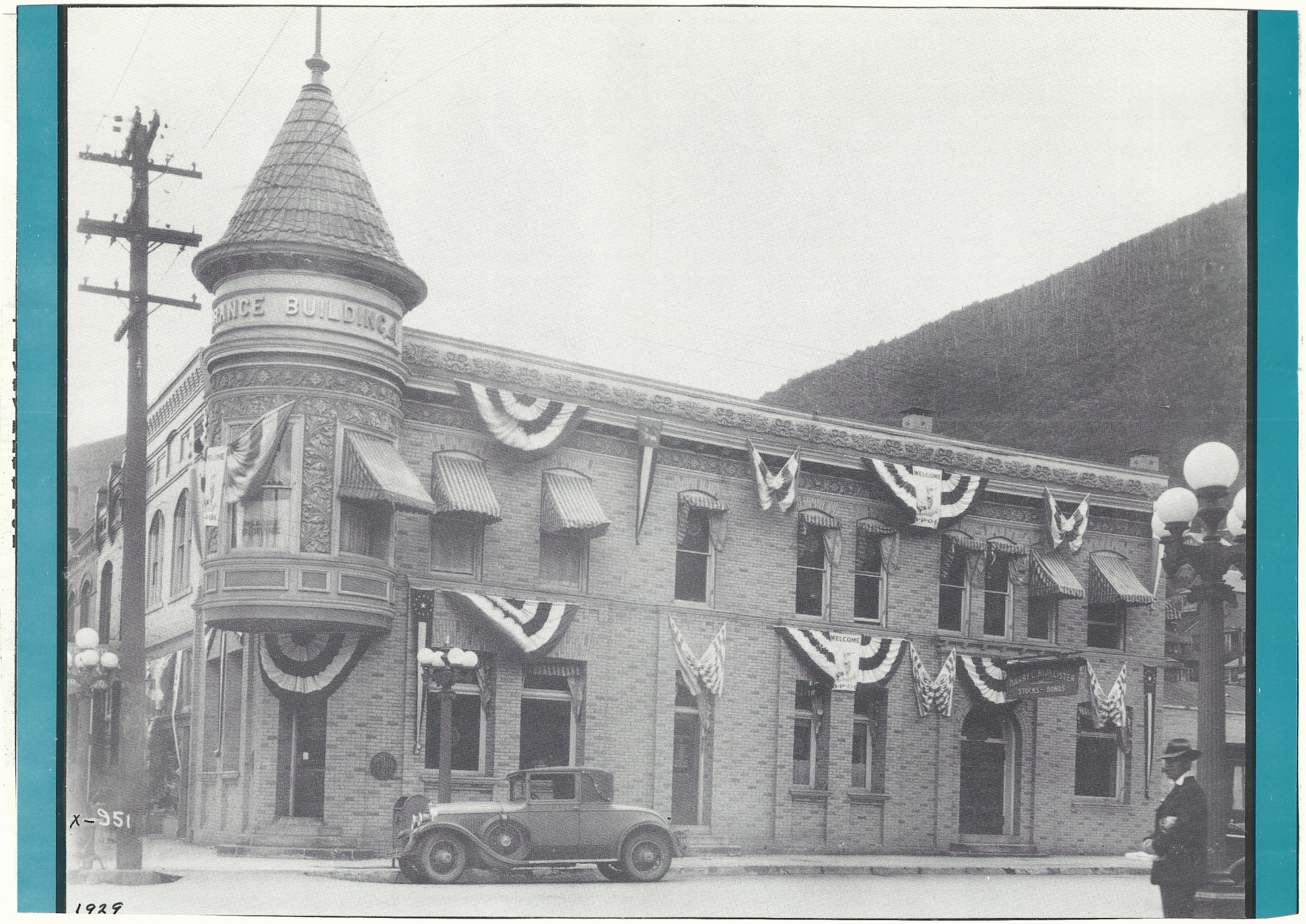
WS-Bnk-c 40c

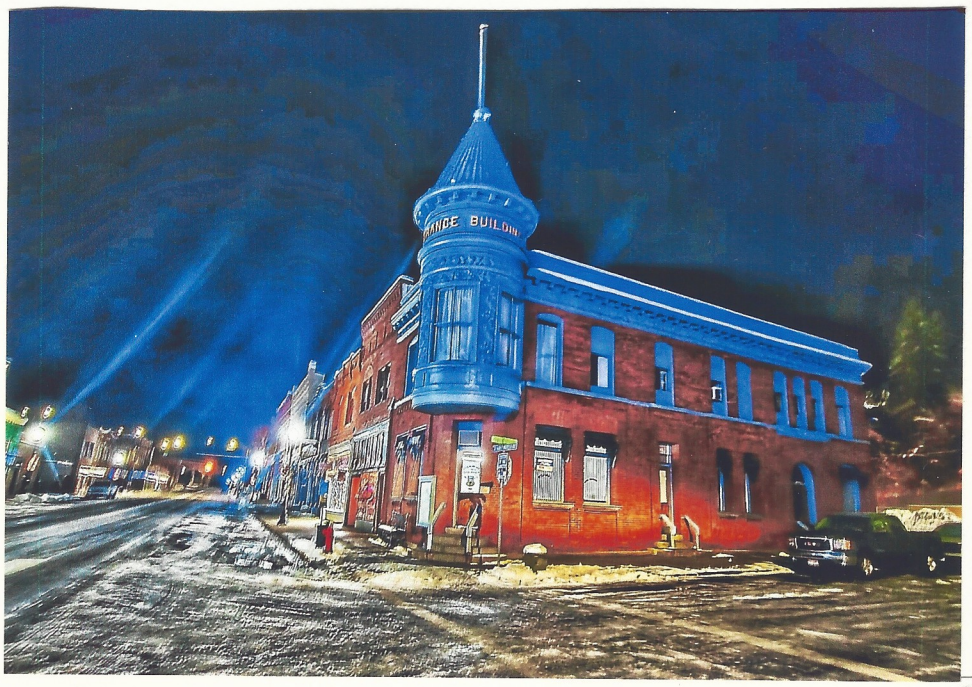
WS-Bnk-e-50 p
vpm 706526



36

BS X581a (373-1) Wallace – Street Scene (01) -First National Bank – 1905





30. ROSSI INSURANCE BUILDING (1890), 602 BANK STREET. This building was originally built for the Bank of Wallace. The bank failed by the year's end and another bank took over, struggled, and also failed. In 1892, the First National Bank of Wallace was created and occupied the site until 1916. The second story was added in 1895 with a pressed metal turret. It should be noted this turret is a mimic of the one on the White and Bender Building across Sixth Street. The rear entrance features double doors with leaded glass, which are topped with a fan window pattern of elaborate leaded glass.

There is some date conflict on this work. Herman Rossi bought the building for his insurance office in 1917. Today, Rossi Insurance is the oldest established business at the same location for more than 100 years in the downtown historic district.

A Unique Collection

The central business district of Wallace stands today as one of the finest intact collections of late 19th and early 20th century commercial buildings in the Northwest United States. Spanning the period 1890 to 1930, the district presents a variety of styles, including Victorian Commercial, Neo-classical Revival, Second Renaissance Revival and Art Deco. All of the buildings are typical of their period and convey a sense of historic continuity.

The work of a number of early Spokane architects may be seen in Wallace. Among the more prominent Northwest architects represented in the city's buildings are I.J. Galbraith, Breusse and Zittle, Albert Held, L.R. Stritesky, and G.A. Pearson.

BS B327-11 (266-5) Safeway **(Howes Bldg)** 1947

BS B327-10 (266-6) Safeway 1947

BS A333 (129-9) First National Bank (Howes & King, George Steward Drug-

Guaranteed Circulation 2250 Daily

The W

VOL. IV, NO. 130

HENRY E. HOWES, 83, CLAIMED BY DEATH; WAS ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF WALLACE

ESTABLISHED FIRST STORE IN CITY AND WAS ACTIVE IN COMMUNITY'S GROWTH

Henry E. Howes died at his home, 422 Bank street, at 9:45 yesterday evening, just ten days following the passing of Mrs. Howes. His death was not unexpected, as Mr. Howes for several years had been in failing health and for the past few months it had been evident that the end was not far away. Mr. Howes was 83 years old, almost the exact age of his wife. His failing health was not due to ravage of disease, but rather to the infirmities of age, which slowly but surely sapped his strength and vitality until he lapsed into final sleep. Mr. Howes is survived by two daughters, Miss Musa K. Howes, county superintendent of schools, and Mrs. A. J. Dunn, who were at his bedside when he passed away.

His Career

Mr. Howes was born in England and in infancy came with his parents to America, who joined an English colony and settled in Ohio, then more familiarly called the Western Reserve. Soon thereafter both his father and mother died, leaving him as well as two sisters and two brothers to find homes with the sturdy pioneer settlers of that frontier region. Mr. Howes was adopted by Richard King, grandfather of Mrs. Howes, and he was brought up in an atmosphere of fine citizenship and loyalty to his adopted country which were the outstanding characteristics of his long, eventful and useful life. Mr. Howes was about 16 years old when the threatening clouds of disunion broke into civil war, and his two brothers responded to the first call for volunteers. One of his brothers was killed in the war and the other was wounded, but joined his regiment later and served until the end of the war. Mr. Howes himself volunteered his services, but was rejected on account of age. Later when the call for men became more pressing, he again volunteered and was accepted. While waiting to be mustered into the army, he was wounded between the knee and the ankle while out hunting, by the accidental discharge of a shotgun which barred him from realizing the greatest desire of his youth, to serve in defense of the Union.

Goes to Wisconsin

Following the close of the war Mr. Howes accompanied G. W. King, his foster brother, to Wisconsin, where he was engaged in the lumber business until he came to the Coeur d'Alenes. It was at Neilsville, Wis., that he married Elizabeth King, daughter of G. W. King, and the 59th anniversary of their marriage was celebrated last February. Mr. and Mrs. Howes established their home in Humbird, where they resided until they came to Idaho.

Career in Wallace

In 1886 Mr. Howes accompanied E. D. Carter, with whom he was associated in the lumber business in Wisconsin, to the northwest and among other places visited was the Coeur d'Alene district, then the scene of excitement due to the discovery of lead-silver deposits on the South Fork of the Coeur d'Alene river as distinguished from the gold belt on the North Fork. This visit resulted in the establishment of a sawmill in Wallace by Mr. Carter, which was operated by Mr. Howes. At the same time Mr. Howes saw a good opening here for a general merchandise store and he was joined in this pioneer enterprise by his brother-in-law, Horace G. King, and they entered business under the firm name of Howes & King. The store fronted on Hotel street, Mr. Carter having in the meantime built the Carter House on the opposite side of the street. Later as the town grew the Howes & King store building was extended through to Bank street, which became the front, occupying the same lot upon which stands the Howes & King building and now occupied by MacMarr's store. Mr. King died many years ago, but Mr. Howes continued the business under the firm name until about six years ago when he retired from business.

A Builder of Wallace

The business of Howes & King grew and prospered as did also the town of Wallace, and one of the chief factors in the advancement of the town were the members of this pioneer firm. In 1890 the entire business section of the town was destroyed by fire, and Howes & King were the first to demonstrate their faith in Wallace by erecting on the ruins the first brick building, which inspired others to do likewise. This was an example of the enterprise and public spirit of Mr. Howes and his partner, and it was continuously exemplified by his activity in support of all public movements for the benefit and advancement of Wallace as the commercial center of the Coeur d'Alene district. Howes & King supplied the mining trade for a radius of 20 miles, and no prospector was too remote to be reached by the pack train of Howes & King. Likewise no prospector was too poor to obtain credit for grub and supplies from Howes & King. In subsequent years, after the refinements of civilization drove the pack horse from the trail and introduced more systematic methods of business, Mr. Howes was proud to state that during those pioneer days no prospector was ever refused credit by Howes & King and no prospector ever failed to pay his account, although at times he may have been slow in getting around to it.

If there was a predominant trait in the makeup of Mr. Howes, it was unyielding honesty and courage of his convictions. The first is attested by his long and honorable career as a business man in Wallace, and the latter by his attitude during the troublsome days in the Coeur d'Alene district when the mob ruled and the less courageous condoned lawlessness rather than risk the loss of trade. Not so with Howes & King. For their courageous stand for law, Mr. Howes faced bankruptcy and probably almost reached that stage rather than sacrifice his principles for right and justice under the law. He lived to see his most bitter opponents commend his courage and express admiration for his courage in standing immovable for good citizenship at whatever cost.

Funeral on Monday

Funeral rites for Mr. Howes will be conducted from the Masonic temple here at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon, with Masonic lodge officers in charge of the services. The Rev. E. W. Benedict will also take part.

Burial will be in the Wallace cemetery beside the body of Mrs. Howes.

Building landmarks

Contractor puts his mark throughout the Valley

One of the most prominent and successful builders and contractors who was responsible for some 50 structures in the Silver Valley in the early days was John H. Hansen.

Born in Denmark in 1864, Hansen was educated there and learned his trade from his father who was a contractor before him. He came to the United States in 1882 and after following his trade briefly in South Dakota and Minnesota, he came to Spokane and subsequently to Wallace, arriving shortly after the big fire of 1890 that had destroyed most of the business district of that city.

Many buildings still stand as monuments to Hansen's ability throughout the Silver Valley as he built some 24 in Wallace, eight in Mullan, six in Kellogg and several in Burke.

Those buildings in Wallace included the White & Bender, Adam Aulbach, Coeur d'Alene Hardware store, office, warehouse and oil house; Sunset Brewery, Howes and King, Otterson, Steward, Bank of Commerce, Frank J. Redding, John Mahoney, Laundry, Bellinger's Store and Apartments; Ryan Hotel, Ryan Annex, addition to Day Building, Episcopal Church, Roundup Grocery, Keller's Garage, Mobil Gas Station, Federal Mining Co. Office, Power House on First Street, Washington Water Power Office and substation; Carnegie Library and grade school addition.

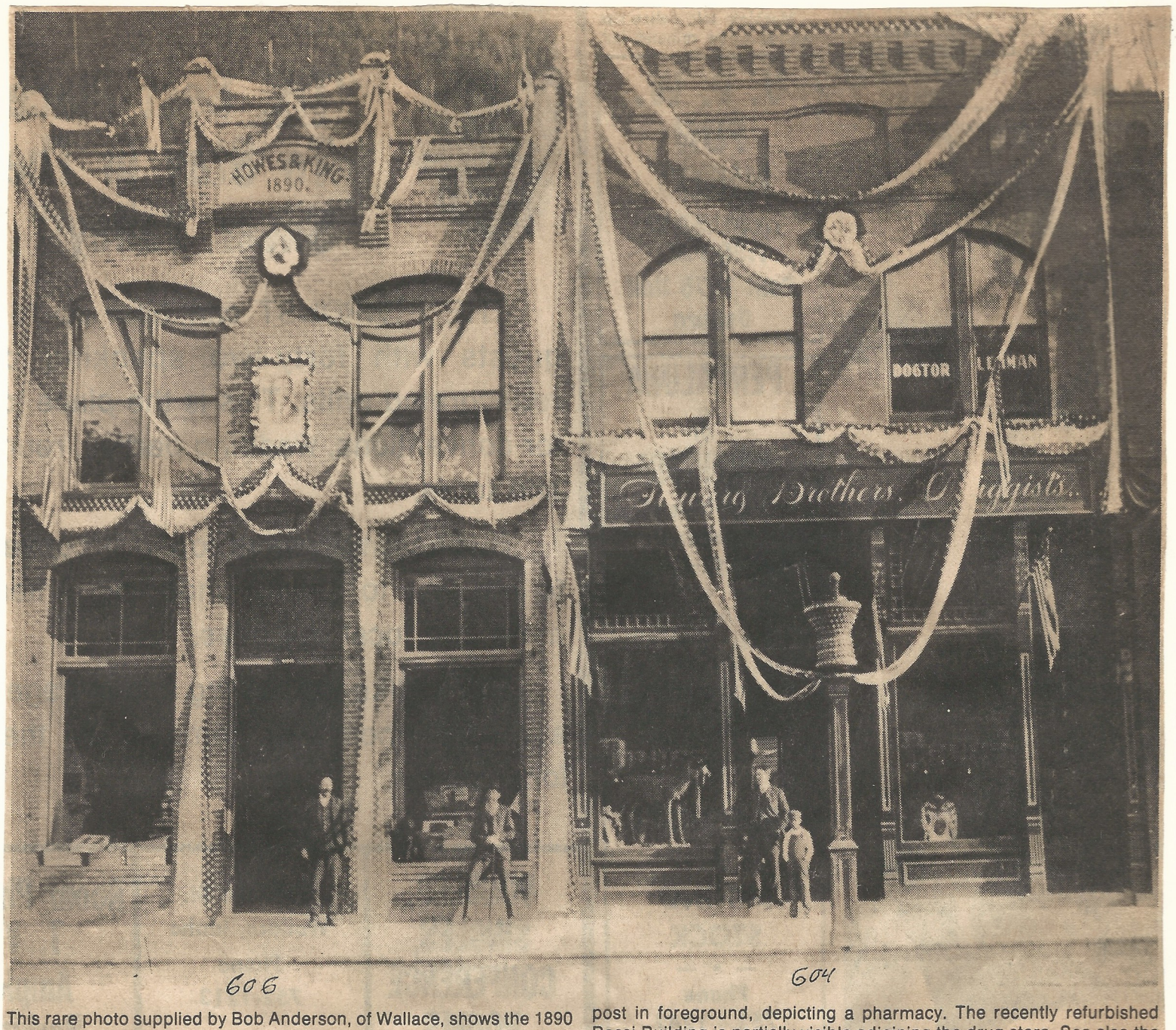
In Mullan he built the first grade school, the high school, the Billberg Hotel, Stevens Hotel, Morning Club, Greenough Store, (Morrow Retail), McElroy and Silfvast Buildings.

In Kellogg, Hansen built the Bunker Hill Office and assay office, the YMCA Building, McConnell Hotel, Euerby's Market and the Papesh Store.

In historic Burke, Hansen erected most of the building after the big fire in 1923 and over in Saltese, Montana, he built the Saltese School.

Mr. Hansen was also active in district mining ventures, serving as a director in many companies and made some of the first locations on Stevens Peak and in the St. Joe district. In the early days he did some work for Dan Cardoner of Burke, who offered him a 16th interest in the fabulous Hercules mine as pay for his work that amounted to $200.

Hansen died in Spokane in 1951 at the age of 86.



This rare photo supplied by Bob Anderson, of Wallace, shows the 1890 vintage Howes & King Building and the Stewart Building decorated with flags, bunting and President Theodore Roosevelt's picture for the presidential visit to Wallace on May 26, 1903. Dr. Leonard E. Hanson stands in the drug store doorway. Note the mortar and pestle on the post in foreground, depicting a pharmacy. The recently refurbished Rossi Building is partially visible adjoining the drug store. See also the four-foot, 13-star flags at the second story. A stuffed goat stands in the pharmacy window but the dog in the Howes & King Grocery window is alive.

Manheim Building

The white-painted two-story brick Manheim Building, constructed in 1890 on Bank Stret, retains its brick cornice and first story cast iron pilasters.

28. HOWES AND KING BUILDING (1890), 606 BANK STREET. Original structure erected in 1884 by owners Henry E. Howes and Horace G. King, early Wallace merchants. These two men ran a grocery business and general store out of a log cabin at this site. Bricks were manufactured in Silverton at a local brickyard. A zinc/tin ceiling is hidden above the false ceiling.

29. MANHEIM BUILDING (1894), 604 BANK STREET. Erected soon after the 1890 fire. This two-story brick building has incurred many changes of the facade over the past century. In 1903, the doorway was in the center of the structure and a mortar and pestle adorned the sidewalk out front. During the great fires of 1910, the U.S. Forest Service had an office upstairs. Shortly after, the space became a pool hall and bar. Most recently, the front of the building has been restored to expose the original six clerestory windows. Notice the zinc/tin ceiling. This building retains the cast iron pilasters on the first floor and the brick cornice on the second floor. The current owner is the fifth in the life of this structure.

BS O64a (245-1) Otterson Dry Goods Company

BS X758o (211-3) Morrows Retail Store (07) -Otterson -1925

bs X 096 (848)

1913

Otterson 2

41

BS X240b (349-2) Wallace - (02) – 1911

1911

BS X240a (349-1) Wallace – (01) – 1911

1911

BS X758m (211-[illegible]) Morrows Retail Store (08) 1925

29

30

31

32

Otterson Bldg. 2

24. COEUR D'ALENE HARDWARE BUILDING (1890), 612 BANK STREET. This building replaced the original wood frame structure owned by Holley, Mason, Marks and Company. It is designed to support six stories. The original appearance has been well preserved and the structure is quite sound. The second story has segmentally arched windows with a brick cornice above. An addition was added to the east in 1900. A second Otterson Building was constructed in 1900, and the three structures were used as a single building by Coeur d'Alene Hardware. This served as a hardware outlet and main office for the foundry and manufacturing plant, which produced machinery that was shipped all over the U.S. and to several foreign countries. Some of the machinery produced by the Cd'A Company was used in the mining industry such as double and single drum hoists. Some of these hoists remain in use today. (Equipment examples may be viewed at the Mining Heritage Exhibition at the Wallace Visitors Center at Exit 61 on I-90.) It was the largest non-mining business in Shoshone County for many years. The company shortened its name to the Coeur d'Alenes Co., and moved to Spokane, Wash., in the 1980s.

25. HELLER BUILDING (1891-1896), 608 BANK STREET. This two-story brick building has two storefronts joined internally on the first floor. The cast iron pilasters remain. The second story retains its segmentally arched windows.

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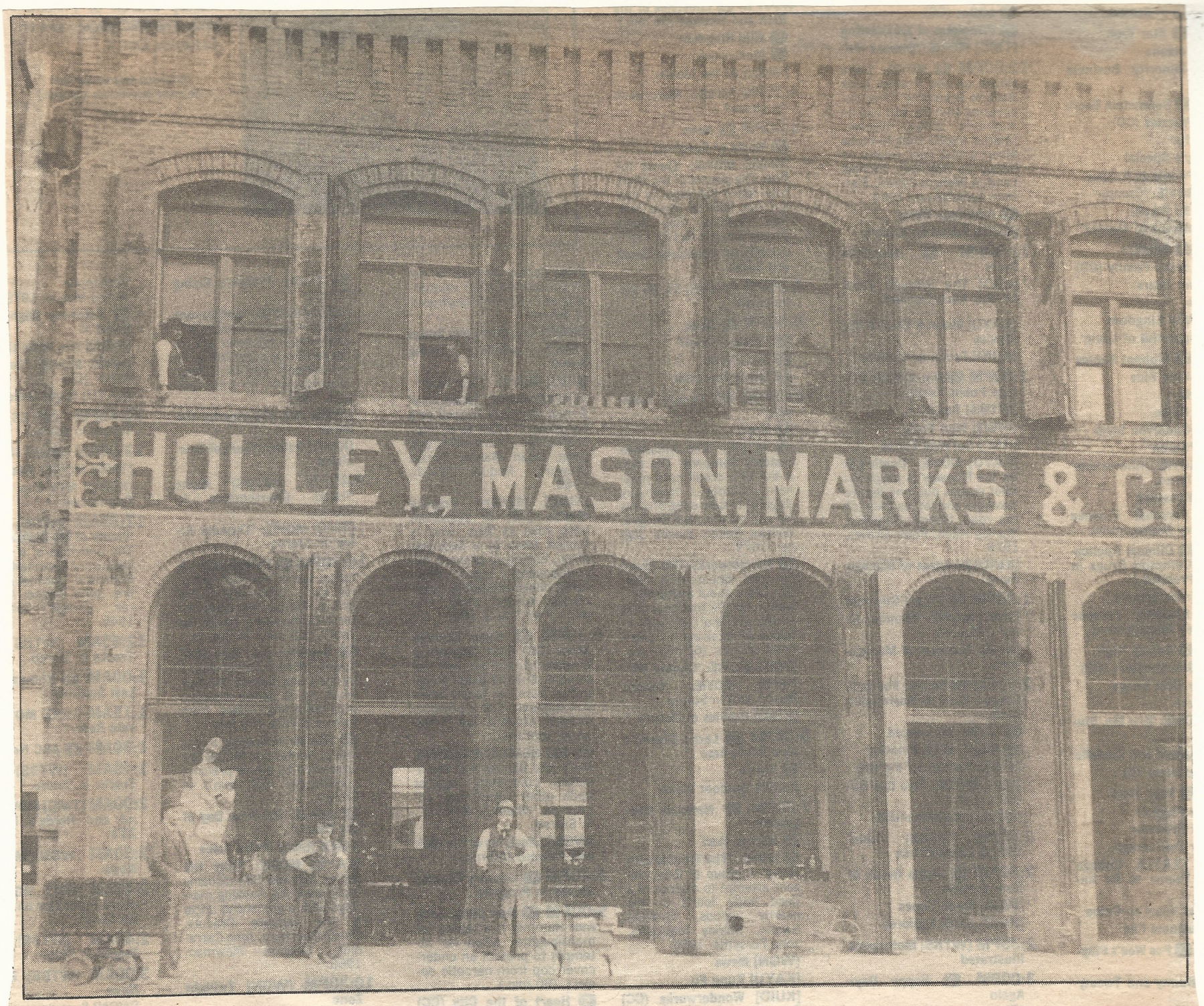


Wallace in early 1890s

Displaying mine cars on the sidewalks is not new in the district as shown in this Holley, Mason, Marks & Co. building on Bank Street in Wallace in the early 1890s. This was Wallace's first brick building constructed after fire destroyed much of the city.

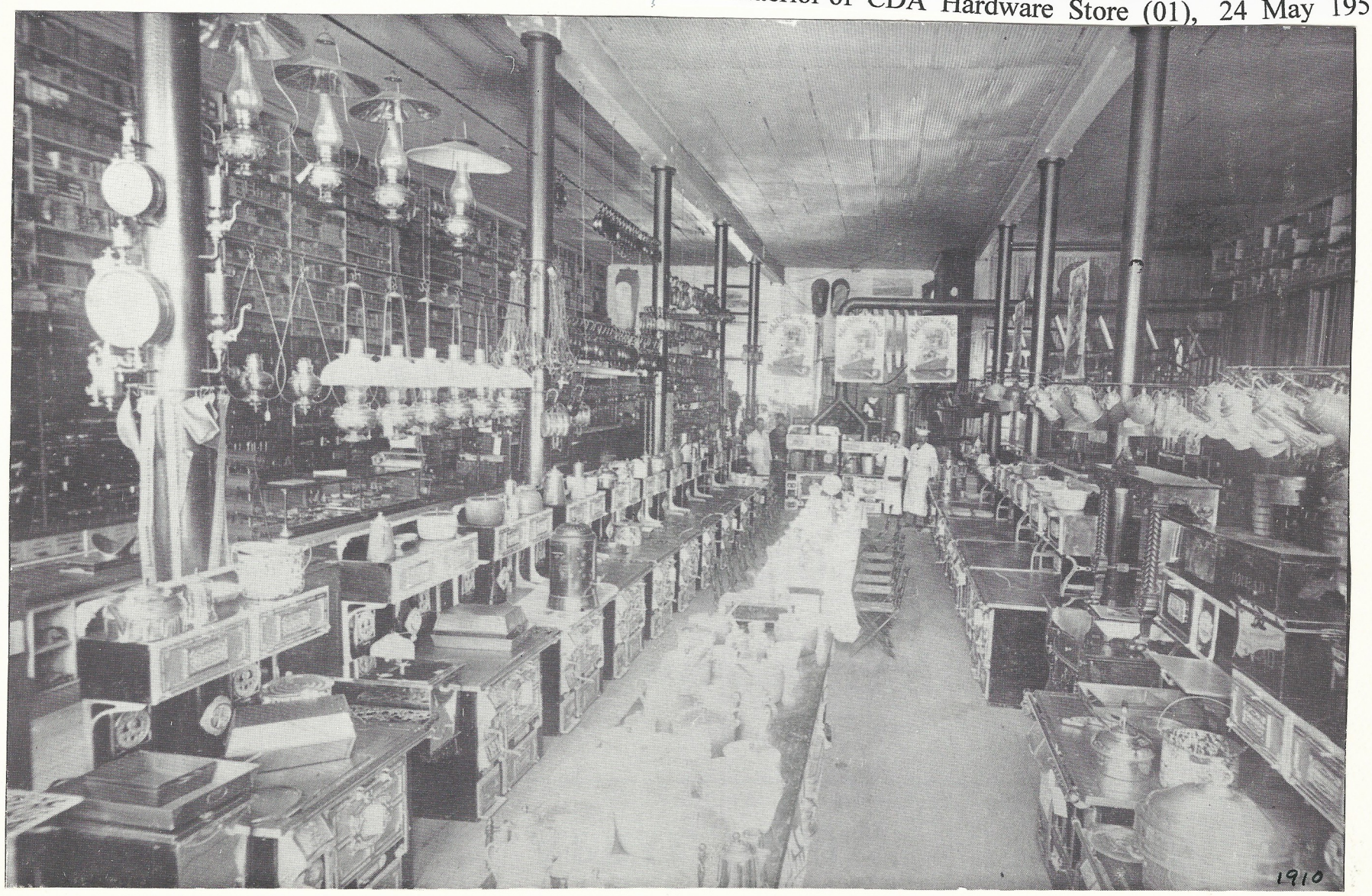
In 1892 the Holley, Mason, Marks firm reorganized as the Coeur d'Alene Hardware. Then in 1914, after merger of the Coeur d'Alene Hardware and Coeur d'Alene Iron Works, the name was changed to the Coeur d'Alene Hardware and Foundry Co. The final name change occurred in 1960 when it was shortened to the Coeur d'Alenes Company.

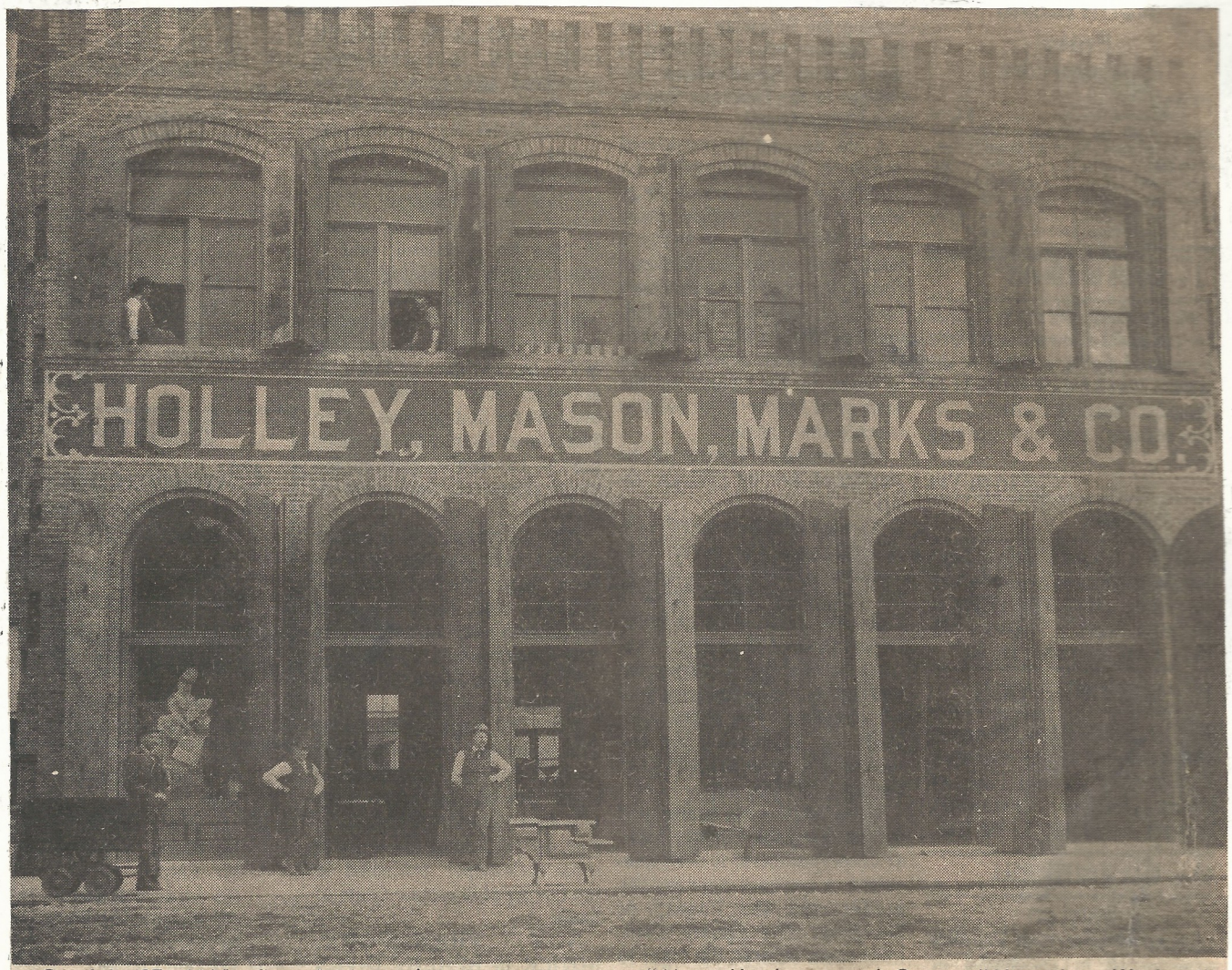
The history of this company dates back to the spring of 1884 when it was set up in a clapboard building in Murray.

In closely studying the picture, it can be determined that all the window openings on both floors could be covered at night by hinged steel or iron shutters, which are folded back in this picture. (Photo courtesy of Wallace Public Library.)

T - 58 - 74 Interior of CDA Hardware Store (02), 24 May 1958

T - 58 - 73 Interior of CDA Hardware Store (01), 24 May 1958





On July 27, 1890 afire of tremendous consequence burned Wallace and Holy, Mason, Marks Company to the ground. By '91 the company was in Wallace's first brick building (pictured) which stands over the original store site. In 1892 the company reorganized as the Coeur d'Alene Hardware. In 1914 after the merger of the Coeur d'Alene Hardware and Coeur d'Alene Iron Works, the name was changed to Coeur d'Alene Hardware and Foundry Co. The final name change of the company occurred in 1960 to The Coeur d'Alenes Company. The history of this company began in a clapboard building in Murray, Idaho the spring of 1884.—Press collection photo.

In the spring of the year 1884, J. R. Marks and W. W. "Billy" Hart his partner, quit their placer diggings in Buckskin gulch and loacted on a town lot in Murray, Idaho a one-story frame building about 25 feet wide by 40 feet long and founded a co-partnership to do business under the firm name of J. R. Marks and Co., Hardware Merchants. E. H. Moffatt soon became a member of the partnership and so profitable was the business that branch stores were opened in Wallace, and later in Wardner, Burke and Mullan. The Wallace store was opened for business in 1887, under the management of W. W. Hart. This store was erected on the same site now occupied by the Coeur d'Alene Hardware Co. and was a frame building 25 feet wide by 50 feet long. The following year that existing partnership dissolved and the firm became the Hollye-Mason-Markes & Co. The store was completely destroyed in the fire which leveled the entire business section of Wallace, July 27, 1890. Re-construction was immediately started and by spring, the two story brick building (center one of the present group) was completed and opened for business. In 1892, the interests of Holley-Mason and Marks were purchased by local residents and the company reorganized to form the Coeur d'Alene Hardware company. The branch stores in Wardner, Burke and Mullan were sold, as was the original store in Murray, consolidating the entire holdings of the company in the rapidly gowing city of Wallace. The above picture is an interior view of the Wallace store in about 1900, showing how the store provided residents of the area with the modern, up-to-date household conveniences of that time, besides being the main provider of materials and equipment for the mines of the district.

PIONEER DEPARTMENT

WALLACE PRESS-TIMES

Early Days Kingston, Wardner and Other Places Recalled

Author Who Spent Boyhood Days Playing When District's Hope Was In Future Sets Down Impressions That He Still Retains; Surroundings Were Primeval, Architecture Crude, Sports Boisterous But Thrills Were Many and Youngsters Were Spectators of Many Frontier Scenes.

Fourth Installment.

Item from the Eagle City "Eagle" under date of May 10, 1884: "Placer Center. This is the name of a new town started on the south fork of the Coeur d'Alene river, at a point about seven miles up the road from Evolution. The town is situated on a good location and commands the Canyon creek mines and other tributaries of the South Fork where mining in a small way is being carried on. The town will be a good point for prospectors who intend to put in a summer's work on the range between the Coeur d'Alene and St. Joe rivers, and its permanency is assured from the fact that it is on the Mullan road which is the main emigrant road across the Bitter Root divide."

Thus was Wallace first known to fame. With the passing of winter snows hardy prospectors came questing across the hills from the north side and plastered the labyrinth of canyons with placer locations. Redshirted, high-booted fellows, these, seeking the golden fleece, but among them was one whose vision reached farther than the rocker and the sluice box—Colonel W. R. Wallace. On the ground that now bears his name he made an agricultural location and here grew up the placer hunter's center.

The names of many of the pioneers who started the camp are lost to history but in the spring of '85, April 16, to be exact, A. D. McKinly and Pete Holohan came to enter business. In recalling incidents of the time, Mr. McKinly told how he was compelled to leap from log to log to keep his feet dry when crossing the area about Cedar street. In 1886 came Howes and King, merchants, and Haskins of Kingston. Mr. Otterson later purchased Haskins' business. E. D. Carter brought in a saw mill and was the first man to purchase a lot from Wallace in the town of Placer Center. Here was built the Carter hotel. The old Masonic temple later stood on this location.

At the moment of writing these lines Charlie Seelig comes in and we talk in a reminiscent mood. Also we laugh at the mistakes a man makes when describing events he witnessed when four or five years old. Very kindly Charlie gives me permission to tell of his father. The matter is pertinent. Mr. Seelig put up the money for the construction of the old Hellar hotel ,erected on Hotel street in '86 by Frank Hellar. He came to Murray in '84 and carried on the trade of packer, having a train of forty pack mules. Since Charlie is so well known in the district today I record that he was a pupil in the first school in Murray and first came to Wallace in '87. That he and I were not playmates and schoolmates in the first Wallace school is due to the fact that his family moved to Chicago in the fall of '87. The editor has said on the editorial page that the time is not so very far away when considered in the light of history, but, believe me, to Charlie and me it is an eon.

On the 30th and 31st of May, 1886, Colonel Wallace had the townsite surveyed by George R. Trask, department United States mineral surveyor, and on the 15th of June application was made for patent through the medium of a Sioux Indian script. No. 430C., purchased from Walter Bourke, a half-breed Sioux Indian. On the second day of May, 1888, a petition for incorporation was granted and the city of Wallace, with Messrs. Horace King, C. M. Hall, C. W. Vedder, D. C. McKissick and W. R. Wallace as trustees, became a fact.

But there came up a question regarding the validity of title. Sioux script No. 430C was discovered to have a duplicate and notwithstanding the fact that Wallace had come by his original paper in legitimate manner, government held that inasmuch as the duplicate had been recognized and a grant of land made, it was no longer involved in the dispute. While the title was "up in the air" a similar dispute came up over script land near Glendive, Mont., and the secretary of the interior decided against the script holder. Jumping was going on at Glendive and rumor of it drifted into the Coeur d'Alenes. Ensued one of the most sensational episodes in the history of the district.

Between nine and ten o'clock on the night of February 19th, 1889, a man walked over to the corner of Cedar and Sixth and making the remark that "here would be a good business location," he posted a notice claiming the lot. Bank and Sixth was the next corner invaded and in a few minutes every man in town who could shake a foot was out after a lot. I was in Mullan at the time and remember of men hurrying down the canyon to get a piece of Wallace. Many men who had built homes went out and jumped their own ground, holding it by virtue of squatter's right; others of small honor jumped their neighbor's holdings. That there was not a single shooting scrape is a fact that should go down in history as a miracle. And Colonel Wallace who had experienced the hardships of pioneering, faced the vicissitudes of frontier life, and had been ridiculed as a visionary, was forced to stand helplessly by and see his fortune go up in the smoke of the jumpers' bonfires. Thus was picturesque history founded on a great injustice. In a letter to the "Murray Sun" the Colonel said:

"For two years I held the land on which the town was built, on an agricultural location, and with my own hands split the rails and built the fence that segregated the land from the public domain, and when I had earned the title to the same by the location of Sioux half-breed script the outside fences were left standing and those on each side of the old Mullan road torn down. as the title was unquestioned. * * * I have lived here through dark and gloomy days when none would take part in the present townsite as a gift, and I have been called a fool and a crank because I could see in the future a chance to build a prosperous town while they could not. * * * But after I have proven my prophecy of years ago they would rob me of all I have."

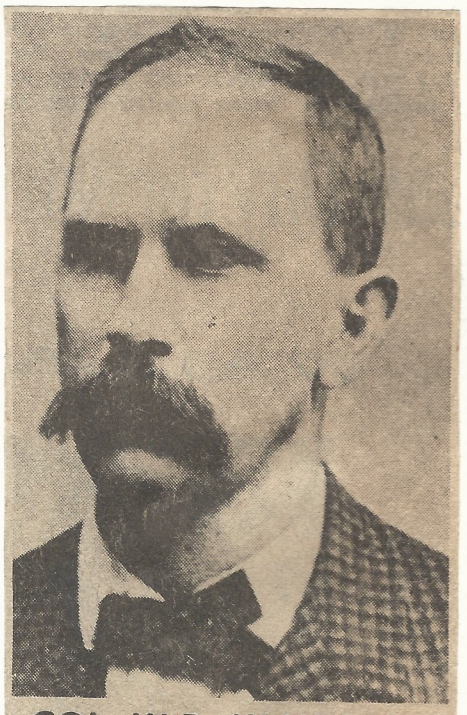
And they did. The jumpers held their lots. I remember Colonel Wallace quite well. He was a splendid old gentleman and one of the best types of the pioneer men. That he failed to reap the reward of his great visioning is one of the tragedies in this land of broken hopes, unrealized dreams. He died at Whittier, Calif., in the fall of 1901. Is there even a bronze tablet in Wallace bearing his name?

Before turning to my personal recollections of Wallace I find this a good place to speak of Evolution, mentioned in the first paragraph of this chapter. It was here that Prichard first located in '78. Later his partner, Tom Irwin, built a cabin in this locality which was known for years as "Miner's Cabin." It was in this cabin that the party of Liberal Leaders wintered in '82 and '83 (?) and gave their Atheistic name to the place. The leaguers were men who did not hold with the Christian faith but were disciples of the great Darwin, Huxly, Wallace and other theorists. No doubt these old timers held many learned discussions that winter concerning natural selection, genera, protoplasms cells and what-not. Being somewhat of a nut on this stuff myself, and having spent many winters in a snowbound cabin, the picture has a peculiar appear to me. In '83 and '84 Evolution was a waystation on the trail to Eagle and it was this trail that Father followed when he came to the gold mines.

In order to get his goods to Eagle Father paid a packer ten cents a pound and the bill came to $80.30. The packer very obligingly threw off the thirty cents. On the summit he came to what may be considered one of the most remarkable restaurants the west has known. A cavern in the twenty feet of snow where Dad secured a meal he always refers to as a BB dinner—"burnt bacon, burnt beans and burnt bread." That night he stopped at Delta where he paid two dollars for supper and breakfast with bed furnished. Fourteen of them spread their own blankets on the floor of a small cabin. I'll say that whoever writes the big history of this Coeur d'Alene will not run shy of local color.

The railroad was completed to Wallace in September, '87, but some time elapsed before a regular service was inaugurated. The narrow guage was under the protecting wing of the Northern Pacific, but there was a competing line projected by the Union Pacific system which was known as the Washington & Idaho. The two parent corporations were jealously watching the Mullan pass and quite a fight was on over rights of way. The first train into Wallace had hardly ceased whistling when the "W & I" slapped an injunction on a mile and a half of track east of Osburn and tied up traffic. This condition existed when we moved to Wallace and it was necessary to make the last half of the journey by stage.

Late in the afternoon we left the train at Osburn. This place was originally located by a man named Lee George and was known as Georgetown but was purchased by William Osburn in 1886. The point was conceived to be the natural junction for the north side by virtue of the Two Mile road. For the first time I met "Uncle Bill" and "Mother" Osburn. Began a friendship that lasted until the old people died. After a short wait we climbed into the stage and began the fearful ride to Wallace. Mudholes, projecting tree roots, cold rain —it is an unpleasant recollection, made doubly so when I consider that on that very day Judge Buck lifted the injunction and rail service was soon resumed. But to have pioneered along the Mullan road—that were sufficient payment for the tribulation. We came to the frontier town of Wallace. The old fashioned coal-oil lamps were burning in the stores, casting friendly bars of light across the street and from the Hellar and Carter hotels came the odor of grub, for supper was preparing. Mrs. Hellar, dear soul, came bustling out to care for Mother and one named Charlie Vedder hoisted me from the stage; came the townspeople with hearty greetings, and so we became citizens of Wallace. Much water has flowed under the bridge since that autumn day.



COL. W.R. WALLACE
Founder of Wallace

Centennial: the birth of Wallace

EDITOR'S NOTE: The City of Wallace celebrates its Centennial Year in 1984. A myriad schedule of events has been prepared by the Wallace Centennial Committee. In conjunction with the Wallace Centennial celebration, the *North Idaho Press* has assigned staff writer Monte Kieling to research back issues of local newspapers and file reports that background the area's rich history. The following story was taken from the *Wallace Miner* "Progress" edition printed on Dec. 16, 1937. The article is reprinted verbatim.

Townsite Selected in 1884

The history of Wallace dates from the spring of 1884, when a small settlement sprang up here and was at first known as "Placer Center." Colonel W. R. Wallace, after whom the city was named, came to this district from Portland in 1883 and established claims at Nine Mile, Canyon Creek, and Placer Center. He made his first headquarters at Kingston and later moved to Evolution, which is now known as Heller's Park.

Built First Cabin

Colonel Wallace met D.C. McKissick, late resident and outstanding pioneer of this district, on May 6, 1884; and together with several others they packed to Wallace and built a cabin on the site now occupied by the Federal Mining & Smelting Company office. This party platted the ground and established a general layout of the city. The main street at that time extended diagonally from what is now the site of the Smoke House to the present location of the Yellowstone Trail Garage.

Galena Discovery Sped Development

It was during this year, 1884, that lead ore was found at the Tiger and Poorman camps. Following the discovery, placer mining ceased and prospecting followed in earnest. In the same year, Colonel Wallace, who had been writing articles for the *St. Paul Dispatch* and the *Portland Oregonian*, interested several men in Portland and offered a half interest in the Orinoco mine and a half of the townsite if the Portlanders would build a lead mill at Placer Center, as Wallace was then named.

In 1886 narrow gauge railroads were built from Mission and Burke to Placer Center; and, during the same year, a re-survey of the town was made and a title script for the land was obtained.

Carter House, First Hotel

The same year a sawmill was established in Placer Center, or Wallace; and houses and stores were built. The Carter House, still accommadating old-timers, was the first hotel to be built in Wallace. It was constructed on the same site occupied by the Carter House today. A two story frame building was also constructed on the present site of the Smoke House. E.H. Moffitt and another party by the name of Marsh established a hardware company, which was the origin of the present Coeur d'Alene Hardware company.

City Government Formed in '87

In 1887 Placer Center had grown to such an extent that Colonel Wallace deemed that the time was ripe for a city government. Following a citizens' meeting, Colonel Wallace was elected mayor; and Jack Dunn, D.C. McKissick, and two others were named commissioners. The town was officially named Wallace at that meeting. An attorney by the name of Ford presented a pamphlet of ordinances; and, the time being short, these ordinances were adopted as a whole, without reading. One of these ordinances prohibited cows from roaming the streets without an attendant.

It was during this year that the Dunn brothers established the first newspaper in Wallace; Otterson built his first store on the present site of the (Wallace) *Press-Times* building; Huemann built and established a store where the Steward Drug company now stands; the first bank in Wallace was established; and White & Bender opened their first store. A schoolhouse was also established in a log cabin on what is now known as Cedar St. It was there that Miss Annie Angel taught the first term of school.

On May 2, 1888, J.C. Harkness presented a petition to the county commissioners of Shoshone County asking for the incorporation of Wallace. The petition was granted and the commissioners appointed Col. W.R. Wallace, Horace King, C.M. Hall, C.W. Vender, and D.C. McKissick as the first board of trustees.

Two combination theaters and a four-piece band were the principal amusements enjoyed by the citizens of Wallace during 1889. Differences between individuals were settled speedily and the coroner usually acted as referee in all disputes.

Wallace Destroyed by Fire

In July, 1890, a fire spread from the roof of a house on Sixth Street; and by night all the buildings but three were totally destroyed. The alleys at this time were filled with brush and stumps; and for several days a veritable forest fire raged over what was once Wallace. On the morning of the second day of the fire, a flat car with a stove and provisions came from Mullan; and in this manner bread and coffee were served to the people of the city.

Four days after the fire a tent city was built; and within the next six months, or by Christmas of 1890, brick buildings ad other structures had replaced the old temporary structures.

City Charter Obtained in '93

In 1893, a city charter was obtained; and W.S. Haskins was elected the first mayor unde the new charter. A system of waterworks was installed abou that time; and with the construction of the hydro-electric plants near the city, electricity came into almot universal use for lighting. Wallace now has two banks, on daily and one weekly newspaper, a board of trade, a modern sewer system, four churches, modern public school buildings, an public library, which was opened in Dec., 1902, two hospitals, and good hotels. Its public buildings and mercantile concerns compare favorably with those of cities three or four times its size.

A newspaper printed at Eagle City carried the birth announcement, in its May 10, 1884, issue:

"PLACER CENTER — This is the name of a new town started on the south fork of the Coeur d'Alene, at a point about seven miles up the road from Evolution. This town is situated in a good location and commands Canyon Creek mines and other tributaries of the South Fork, wherein mining in a small way is going on. The town will be a good point for prospectors who intend to put in a summer's work on the range between the Coeur d'Alene and St. Joe, and its permanency is assured from the fact that it is on the Mullan Road, which is the main emigrant road on the Bitter Root divide."

In retrospect, this is a very concise statement as to why, when, and where the city now known as Wallace, Idaho, came into being. The article fails, however, to note the journalistic requirement of reporting on the who's involved. It is the purpose of this writing to tell about the people involved in founding a city and a mining district, which were to become a center for mining for at least the next 100 years.

What starts a town? In the case of Placer Center, it was the building of a cabin by Colonel W. R. Wallace, to serve as his headquarters for mining exploration in the immediate area. He was a leader of men, and his group used the new townsite as their base camp. His cabin was built on the toe of a snow-covered hillside (near the south end of Sixth Street in Wallace). It was not until a year later that the Colonel's wife, Lucy, made her first appearance in Placer Center.

On June 22, 1885, Colonel Wallace drove a wagon to pick her up at the Old Mission. She and her luggage, which included a dog, bird, cats, and chickens, had arrived early in the day by boat. After leaving the Mission they forded the river 14 times before arriving at Placer Center, and this was the cause of some concern. The water was running high, but their only loss was one chicken which drowned when the water dashed over the wagon box. The 25 miles trip took two days, with an overnight stop at Jackass Prairie.

At the time of Mrs. Wallace's arrival, the town's population numbered 14. She was the only woman to "winter" in Placer Center that year. There were two women in Burke, Mrs. F. R. Culbertson, a daughter of S. S. Glidden, and a French woman. The former could not speak French and the latter could not speak English, so there was not much conversation between them. A woman also "wintered" that year at Jackass Prairie. In August, 1886, Lucy Wallace was appointed the first postmistress in town. She later stated that the United States Post Office Department would not accept the name of Placer Center because it was too long. Her husband objected to a town's being named after him because there were many towns of this name already. Lucy Wallace ignored her husband's opinion and filled out the United States Postal Department slip listing the Post Office in the name of Wallace, and so it has remained to this day.

The first merchant to set up in Wallace was Alexander D. McKinlay, who came here in April of 1885, accompanied by Peter J. Holohan. They had been partners for 28 years in Idaho and elsewhere. H. Harrington also opened his store in a log cabin along the Mullan Road nearby, but he was soon to leave for the Kingston area. In 1886, Howes and King opened a general store in a log building, after having purchased the grocery business started by McKinlay and Holohan.

"Business was a little slow with this enterprising firm (Howes and King) the first winter (1886). About all they had to do during the day was to shovel snow to the woodpile and at night varied the monotony by playing chess, checkers, or freezeout with their few, but equally idle, neighbors."

Later in 1886, E. D. Carter built the Carter House and erected the first sawmill, and E. A. Sherwin started a drug store. J. R. Marks, William Hart and E. H. Moffitt set up the town's first hardware store.

About two years had passed and Wallace still did not have a saloon. However, this was remedied during the winter of '86 by John Cameron, who thought Sixth Street was a good location for his saloon. Enough businesses were quickly set up to meet the human needs. Soon to follow were a livery stable operated by Sutherland and White. Billy Haskins came from Kingston and set up a general store, which he soon sold fo O. C. Otterson. Most of these early businesses were set up in the area centering around the intersection of Sixth and Bank streets in Wallace. One of the reasons for this was that a large portion of the remaining flat land in Wallace was a large cedar swamp.

A. J. Dunn and J. L. Dunn established the first newspaper in town in Colonel Wallace's building. The Dunn Brothers printed the first issue of their *Wallace Free Press* on July 2. 1887. It is interesting to read one of the feature articles, which states that the early history of Wallace was much too well known to be set forth in their paper. Nevertheless, the early-day newspapers furnish much of the valuable information on any district. Such was the case in the Coeur d'Alene Mining District, which had several papers published bearing the good and bad news of a group of living and loving people.

Wallace celebrated a full, rich century in 1984

1984 is only eight days away from becoming a memory, and so is the 100th anniversary celebration of Wallace, "the Silver Capital of the World."

The official ceremonies commemerating the Wallace centennial celebration took place May 19 with the dedication of a time capsule, but the design and planning of the year-long jubilee began over a year and a half ago, Wallace Centennial '84 Committee Chairman Archie Hulsizer said.

"It's really been overwhelming but also a lot of fun. We started out planning just a simple weekend celebration, but it just kept getting bigger and bigger," Hulsizer said.

The year-long birtday party began in January with the selection of Jodie Lilienkamp as the centennial queen. As Miss Wallace Centennial, Lilienkamp received $500 and a Wallace Centennial Silver Medallion.

Then in February, "The First 100 Years," a play depicting the city's past played to sell-out crowds of about 250 people for three consecutive performances.

Wallace High School students gave their rendition of "Oklahoma" in March, and in April the city hosted the Basketball Classic as a reminder of its athletic heritage.

Wallace has a history of being a sports-minded town. In 1888, four years after the town was founded, a baseball game between Burke and Wallace was held in a field recently cleared of stumps and in 1899 Wallace played a team from Spokane for the baseball championship of Idaho and Washington.

But perhaps the area's greatest claim to athletic fame was boxer Guido Bardelli, who was also known as "Young Firpo — the Wild Bull of Burke."

Bardelli, considered by some to be the greatest athlete ever to come from the Coeur d'Alene Mining District, as well as the greatest boxer in the history of the Pacific Northwest, began his career in 1924 and scored 79 KO's out of 134 professional bouts before retiring in 1937.

May's centennial activities included the opening day of the Sierra Silver Mine Tour, the official centennial ceremonies, the centennial ball, and the time capsule drilling.

The Sierra Silver Mine, located at the northern outskirts of Wallace, began as an exploration mine but work there was discontinued in the 1940's.

In its first year of operation as a tourist attraction, nearly 5,000 people have toured the facility and more than 15,000 people were expected to tour the mine in its third year.

June's centennial festivities featured the "rebirth" of the Slippery Gulch celebration. Describing the celebration is no easy task; it can perhaps be best described as a modern-day curiosity, a vaudeville-type re-enactment of the late 1800's and early 1900's.

For example, during gulch days native men found without whiskers, sideburns, mustache, or beard can be "imprisoned" or fined.

This year's Slippery Gulch celebration was only the sixth time the event has been held since its inception in 1946.

As part of August's activities, the United States Forest Service dedicated a memorial commemerating the great fire of 1910 and the heroic deeds of Edward Pulaski.

Trapped by raging forest fire Aug. 20, Pulaski lead his crew of firefighters in a retreat along the West Fork Placer Creek trail to the relative safety of a mine tunnel. Of the 42 people who entered the shelter only five failed to come out alive.

The great fire of 1910 claimed 85 lives in all and destroyed three million acres of prime timber.

August was also the month Wallace High School hosted a class reunion for all of its graduating classes.

The school graduated its first class in 1895 with five graduates. The smallest graduating class was in 1905 with only two graduates and the 1970 graduating class was the school's largest with 131 seniors receiving diplomas.

Approximately 4,564 graduates have passed through the doors of WHS between 1895 and 1983.

The following are some important events in Wallace's history. They were compiled by 1st District Judge Richard Magnuson for Wallace's centennial souvenir magazine.

1884 — "Placer Creek" founded, later changing its name to Wallace.

1885 — Lucy Wallace becomes the first woman to live in Placer Center. Alexander McKinley is the town's first merchant.

1886 — Carter House built by Ed Carter, who established a sawmill in town. John Cameron's opened the town's first saloon.

1887 — The Dunn brothers started the first newspaper "The Wallace Free Press". The first railroad, with a narrow guage track, reached Wallace, connecting it to western areas.

1888 — The first session of Wallace's school ran for little more than three months at a cost of $364.30. Wallace became the first city in the valley to incorporate.

1889 — Tabor's Fruit Stand established in Wallace. Problems developed with the Wallace townsite. Standard guage railroad reaches the city. Episcopal Church is first church built in Wallace.

1890 — Wallace's business district destroyed by fire. Holland Memorial Hospital is the city's first — it later became Wallace Hospital and moved to the west end of Cedar Street. First train arrived from Missoula.

1891 — Wallace had 30 taverns. The Miners' Union Hospital established in the 800 block of Bank Street, later merging with Providence Hospital, built in the same year. Col. Wallace lost the townsite case and severed connections with the city.

1892 — Martial law set up following union-management violence at Frisco and Gem. First National Bank of Wallace founded.

1893 — South side of Gem burned to the ground. Western Federation of Miners formed. Silver Panic of 1893 causes depression throughout mining district and nation.

1894 — John Kneebone murdered by a mob of 50 men in Gem. He had been a witness for the state in the labor war trials of 1892.

1895 — Wallace school graduates first class in the Coeur d'Alenes. First Catholic Church built. 1896 — Masonic Opera House erected; it served as the city's place of entertainment for about 20 years.

1897 — Hecla stock sold for 1 and 2 cents per share. Frisco Mill foreman F.D. Whitney murdered by group of masked and armed men. A $16,000 reward was offered but there were no arrests.

1898 — Shoshone County seat moved from Murray to Wallace. It was first located at the present site of the Smoke House tavern, with court held in the Opera House. The business district suffered a major fire.

1899 — Federal troops camped all over the district as a result of the explosion of the Bunker Hill Mill at Wardner. Future U.S. Senator William Borah was one of the prosecuting attorneys at the trial of Burke Miners Union head Paul Corcoran, held in Wallace.

1900 — Idaho First National Bank built. Wallace suffered another disasterous fire. Wallace Methodist Church built. Eleven local residents jailed for the part in the 1899 labor troubles.

1901 — Sunset Brewery opened on Hotel Street. North Pacific depot built.

1902 — Public library built. Hercules Mine disclosed a carbonate vein 20-feet wide.

1903 — President Theodore Roosevelt visited Wallace. Washington Water Power Company began the transmission of power through the district.

1905 — Our Lady of Lourdes Academy established in September under the direction of the Sisters of Providence. Gov. Frank Steunenberg assassinated by former Wallace resident Harry Orchard as an outgrowth of labor troubles.

1906 — Wallace underwent a building boom which included a new courthouse, the Samuels Hotel and the Eagle Block. Wallace Supply Company started business at the present site of the Metals Bar.

1907 — First automobile in Wallace purchased by Dr. McGee. Famous attorney Clarence Darrow was in Wallace for the Steve Adams criminal trials.

1908 — Wallace Supply moved to its present location in the Eagle Block.

1909 — City population estimated at 4,000. Two passenger trains a day running between Wallace and Spokane. The city has two daily and three weekly newspapers. Alice Mine is in production.

1910 — East end of Wallace burns Aug. 20 in the 1910 fire.

1911 — Wallace Carnegie Library built. The replanting of the burned area of Placer Creek was in the planning stage.

1912 — Harry L. Day elected president and manager of the Federal Mining Company.

1913 — Wallace, Kellogg and Mullan were the sites of the first airplane flights in the district.

1915 — The Yellowstone Trail Highway completed from Missoula to Spokane. Opera House was destroyed by fire.

1916 — Day Brothers establish offices at the corner of Fifth and Cedar streets, above the present Morrow's Department Store.

1919 — Mining in post-war doldrums. Interstate-Callahan suspended operations. Two men were rescued after being trapped for two weeks underground at the Gold Hunter Mine.

1920 — Morning Club organized.

1921 — Another depression hits district. Galena Mine struck ore at the 400 level.

1922 — Most of the mines resume production. The excess profits tax was repealed and freight rates reduced. Metal prices rose.

1924 — Elks build building at Fifth and Cedar streets.

1925 — Hercules Mine closed after paying $19 million in dividends.

1926 — Present Catholic Church built in Wallace.

1929 — Stock market crash has profound effect on district.

1930 — Mining activity severely curtailed. Production at Star Mine suspended.

1931 — Hecla cuts back to four-day week. Bunker Hill and Sunshine only mines in the United States to maintain capacity production throughout the year.

1932 — Slowest mining activity in 40 years. Wages reduced twice; payroll lowest since 1893. Base wage of $4.75 maintained most of the year. Hecla cuts back to three-day week.

1933 — The year of the great flood. Wallace lost its swimming pool on King Street. Tabor Building destroyed by fire.

1934 — The merger of several companies brought 276 patented and 39 unpatented claims to ASARCO. Sunset brewery reopened after Prohibition repealed.

1935 — Civilian Conservation Corps working in local woods.

1938 — Miners paid $5.75 a shift. Floods cause heavy damage to district.

1939 — Wallace gets new swimming pool.

1941 — Teenagers hung out at Saxon's while not attending shows at Grand or Liberty theaters.

1942 — Army furloughs soldiers from coal-mining areas to work in

district mines.

1943 — Sailors from Farragut Naval Base were frequent visitors to Wallace.

1944 — Hecla Mine productions cease. Mines increased productions to meet demands of the wartime economy.

1946 — President Harry Truman signed legislation increasing the market price of silver from 71.11 to 90.5 cents per ounce. Slipper Gulch held at Howarth Hall June 23.

1947 — Day Mines, Inc., created by consolidation of 12 companies. Miners had a new pay scale — $10.69 per shift, up from $9.73. Over 700 job openings in the district for miners and muckers. Liquor by the drink becomes legal in Wallace. Football field built in Silverton. Slippery Gulch set up on Cedar Street between Fifth and Sixth streets. "Black Mike's Roaring 80s Saloon" set up in the present site of the Metals Bar. Black Mike Voltolini offered gaming tables and can-can dancers.

1949 — Wallace Civic Auditorium built by public donations as a memorial to World War II veterans.

1951 — Due to a shortage of miners, some mines were taking steps to provide housing for employees. Slippery Gulch held in the Civic Auditorium.

1952 — Silver prices rise due to Korean War.

1953 — Slot machines outlawed, 219 were licensed in the county.

1954 — The Pure Thought Club met regularly at the Metals Club in the Samuels Hotel. Wallace, Silverton and Osburn get television.

1955 — August strike at Page, Frisco, Galena, Day Mines and Sidney still going at end of the year.

1957 — Wallace Babe Ruth baseball team beats teams from Klamath Falls, Ore., and Seattle to earn the right to go to the Babe Ruth World Series in Ann Arbor, Mich.

1958 — Wallace's Silver Jubilee. Slipper Gulch lived again.

1959 — Idaho Public Utility Commission hearings were held in Wallace over Citizen's Utility Company's request to increase water rates from $2.50 to $5. "Water or Blood?" was the headline of a local editorial.

1960 — Coeur d'Alene Hardware Foundary closed. There was concern over the condition of the highway between Mullan and Wallace.

1961 — Seven-month strike settled in January.

1962 — Silver rose to $1.22 per ounce.

1963 — Miners wages were $22 per shift. Coeur d'Alene Mines awarded $129,000 judgement from Hecla. Wallace hosts the Idaho Mining Association Convention.

1964 — Last of 90 percent silver coins struck for general circulation by United States Mint. Coeur d'Alene Hardware closes it retail store in Wallace.

1965 — ASARCO undertakes the Coeur Project, pursuant to an agreement with Coeur d'Alene Mines. Gem loses its post office. Wallace Hospital ceases operations.

1966 — Hecla purchases Morning Mine from ASARCO.

1967 — Galena Mine installs new hoist and extends shaft to 4,300 level. Providence Hospital closes, and East Shoshone Hospital opens in Silverton.

1968 — Caladay Silver Mines formed by ASARCO, Callahan and Day companies.

1969 — Silver goes from $1.80 to $2.02 per ounce.

1971 — Market activity and exploration are almost as a standstill due to falling metal prices and profits.

1972 — Ninety-one miners who died in the Sunshine Mine fire.

1973 — Silver rises to $3.26 per ounce.

1974 — Placer Creek flooded. Shoshone County nursing home closed and Good Samaritan Center in Silverton opened.

1975 — Silver Syndicate vs. Hecla, Sunshine and Silver Dollar trial lasts 3½ weeks.

1976 — The nation's bicentennial celebrated in Wallace with Slippery Gulch. Coeur shaft and mill dedicated.

1978 — Consolidated Freightways opens a relay station at Osburn.

1979 — Hecla was the year's "best performer" on the New York Stock Exchange — going from a low of $5.25 to a high of $45. The movie "Heaven's Gate" was filmed in Wallace. Flood control study on Placer Creek begun.

1980 — Silver rises to $48 per ounce and drops to $12 the next day. Mt. St. Helens ash falls on Wallace.

1981 — Day Mines merges into Hecla.

1982 — Star Mine closes.

1983 — Hecla's Silver Shaft at Lucky Friday Mine completed to depth of 6,200 feet.

1984 — The centennial.

1884 - 1984

WALLACE CENTENNIAL

SLIPPERY GULCH

Gyro Lead Creek Derby

VALLEY THEATER

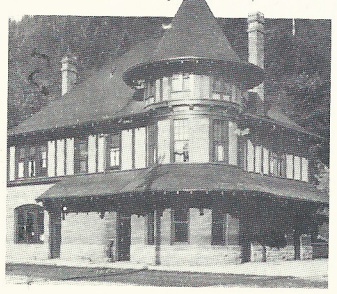
ELKS ROUNDUP

SIERRA SILVER MINE TOUR

1884 - 1984

WALLACE CENTENNIAL

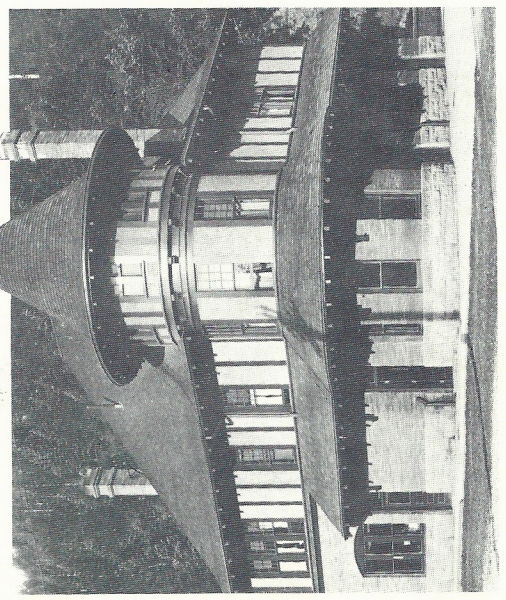
Celebrating 100 Years of Wallace Mining



Schedule of Events

WALLACE CENTENNIAL

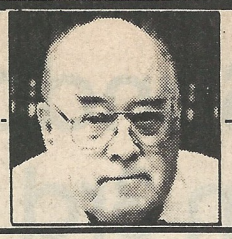
Celebrating 100 Years of Wallace Mining



SLIPPERY GULCH • LEAD CREEK DERBY • MINE TOUR
CENTENNIAL BALL • COMMEMORATIVE COIN

1884 - 1984

Founder tells of Wallace's beginnings



WENDELL BRAINARD

History notes

It was back in the fall of 1916 that Richard Lockey, one of the original founders of Wallace, had returned to that city to look after some real estate holdings he had retained there.

The Wallace Press-Times interviewed Mr. Lockey, and the result is interesting to modern-day readers for its historical value as follows:

"It was in 1868 that I first saw what is now Wallace. Another young fellow and I rode over the old Mullan Trail. We were on our way from Helena to Portland. The old road, or trail, was in bad shape. Trees had fallen across it, and I have a distinct recollection of building approaches to those fallen trees so that we could cross with our saddle horses.

"At that time there was one settlement in this whole valley. Somewhere near the present site of Osburn an Irishman had a little garden patch. We camped along the river, stopping wherever night overtook us. Our blankets were strapped to the backs of the saddles so that we always had our beds with us.

"In those days mining was a thing unknown in the Coeur d'Alenes, and the thought (that) this country might be rich in mineral never even occurred to me. I thought so little of the country that I was not even induced to come back here when I learned of the discovery of gold in the Murray section in the spring of 1884."

Lockey explained that his first trip through the country was made from Helena to Portland for the purpose of purchasing saddles and pick iron, both being in big demand in Montana at that time. The supplies for Helena were brought up the Missouri River in flat-bottom boats and then taken across country by team and wagon. The supply of saddles had run short in '68, and Lockey undertook the journey to Portland to make further purchases.

"I came to Placer Center, which is now Wallace in the year 1886," said Lockey. "If I remember correctly there were three cabins here at that time. Colonel W.R. Wallace claimed the townsite and also had considerable mining property, including some placer ground on Nine Mile. I saw the future of the town and bought a half interest in all of the property Colonel Wallace had. I never stayed here long at a time. My interests in Montana took up much of my time and demanded that I keep in touch with them.

"In order to clear up the townsite I bought scrip and placed it. I then went on about my business in Montana, feeling confident that I had made a good investment that would pay anywhere from a quarter to a half million. You can imagine my surprise when in 1890, while I was in Miles City, I received a telegram that the townsite had been jumped. It developed that the scrip we had placed had been lost for years and other scrip had been issued in lieu of it by the government.

Soon after buying an interest with Colonel Wallace, the town was platted, and it was Mr. Lockey who named the place Wallace, in honor of his partner. Cedar Street was known as Lockey Street on the first plat of Wallace, but the name was changed later.

Turning from the events of a third of a century ago to the present, Lockey said that he was here for a few days, first to look after the Ore-Or-No-Go mill site just above the foundry, which is the only property he now owned in the Coeur d'Alenes, and second to become enthusiastic over mining and get a supply of the optimism, which is found only in this district.

Early History of Wallace

Colonel W. R. Wallace came to north Idaho in 1883 from Portland, Oregon and established mining claims at Nine Mile Canyon Creek and Placer Creek.

In 1884, he built the first store and cabin in a cedar grove along the Coeur d'Alene River naming the settlement Placer Center. Wallace platted the ground arriving at a general layout and proceeded to sell lots. His wife Lucy, was the first postmistress. The U.S. Postal Service in Washington, D.C. decided that the name Placer Creek was too long and that it should be shortened to "Wallace". The good Colonel was supposed to have disagreed with the change, but Lucy and the U.S. Post Office were implacable and so it became "Wallace".

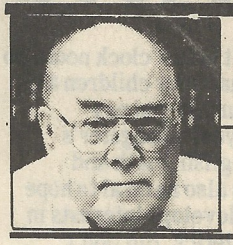
By 1887, Wallace was a town of considerable size. Colonel Wallace was elected mayor, Jack Dunn and D. C. McKissick plus two others were named commissioners. The town got its first newspaper, several stores, the first bank and a narrow gauge railroad between Mission and Burke.

Disaster struck Wallace when the Supreme Court declared the script that Colonel Wallace had used to title the land covering the city of Wallace, was invalid. That night candles could be seen moving at a frantic pace about the town as claim jumpers posted claims and restructured the town to their liking. Property lines, platted streets were all disregarded in the rush. Many sold their holdings the next day for whatever they could get. One corner lot was sold for a drink of whiskey. The affair was considered calm by frontier standards with only two shootings and one killing. Wallace left the town he had worked so hard to build and went back to Michigan to live out his old age in poverty.

Starting over again, the town prospered once more only to be razed by fire on July 27th, 1890. This time, instead of the previous wooden structures, much of the town was rebuilt with brick. Again in August, 1910 fire struck the town in the form of gigantic forest fire that laid waste to much of north Idaho and destroyed the entire east side of Wallace amounting to about 100 buildings.

Rebuilt again in grand style, Wallace exhibits some of the finest period architecture in the state, and is interesting to visit.

Chalenor, Wallace pioneer



WENDELL BRAINARD

History notes

An early-day pioneer was W.F. Chalenor of Spokane, a traveling auditor for Childs, Day & Co., dealers in automobile accessories.

When Chalenor was in Wallace at the end of November 1924, his first visit since 1888, he was interviewed by a reporter for The Wallace Press-Times, and gave the following account of what Wallace looked like in those early times. He was connected with the construction of the Northern Pacific Railroad between Wallace and the Mission with the narrow gauge.

"Wallace in those days was a real western mining town, and it is my opinion that none of us here at that time had the least idea that the rough mining camp was the beginning of a modern city, possibly the finest and most complete small city in the entire west today," Chalenor said.

"During my stay in the Coeur d'Alenes in the early days of the camp, I knew all of the old-timers including Colonel Wallace, the founder of the city and many others who have either passed to the great beyond or left the country for other parts. I was stationed at Mullan at the time when the townsite was 'jumped' by Col. Wallace and had I desired, I could have secured a lot, but Wallace lots at that time held very little attraction, and could have been purchased at no great cost.

"The city at that time, as I remember, consisted of a number of very ordinary buildings, very few being more than one story in height, with many of them on the main streets occupied by saloons, gambling houses and other places fitted up for the entertainment of the miners.

"On Christmas Day in 1888, I had dinner at the Morning Mine at Mullan, being the guest of the superintendent of the property. The Morning at that time was far from being the great producer of today.

"During the summer of 1888, I was stationed with the construction crew of the narrow gauge at Kingston, spending the Fourth of July at that place, where we had a great celebration, including everything from a prize fight between two women to a 'wide open town' where everybody was welcome to join in the celebration which continued for several days.

"While I have been stationed at Spokane and other cities of the Northwest for many years since residence in this district, this has been my first visit since leaving here. I was very much surprised at seeing a city of this class, spread over what was a cedar swamp that was most unattractive. The buildings of Wallace, the hotels in particular, would do credit to a much larger city, and while I have not had the time to go over all of the city, I have seen enough to convince me that Wallace is one of the most modern cities of its size in the entire West."

Wendell Brainard writes history columns for the Shoshone County News-Press, the Wallace Miner and the North Idaho Sunday.

CITY OF WALLACE

Long known as "The Richest Little City in the World," the city of Wallace's history dates back to 1884. It was in that year that Col. W.R. Wallace built a cabin in the small town of Placer Center. The cabin was to serve as his headquarters for mining exploration. Two years later, Lucy, the Colonel's wife and first postmistress in the town changed Placer Center to Wallace. The name change was in response to the U.S. Post Office Department's request for a shorter name. By 1888 Wallace had taken on a formal identity. A narrow guage railroad built from the Cataldo Mission to Wallace was instrumental in opening up the mining riches of the area.

As the activity focus in the region shifted from the gold fields near Murray to the silver deposits around Wallace, the town began to grow in both size and importance. The county seat of Shoshone County was moved to Wallace in 1889. Wallace became and is still an important financial and administrative center for the mining companies that have established their headquarters here.

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MINING TOWN

by Wendell Brainard

The city of Wallace was a real western mining town in the early days, according to an early-day pioneer, W.F. Chalenor of Spokane, who was a traveling auditor for Childs, Day & Co., dealers in automobile accessories.

When Chalenor was in Wallace at the end of November, 1924, his first visit since 1888, he was interviewed by a reporter for the Wallace Press-Times, and gave the following account of what Wallace looked like in those early days. He was connected with the construction of the Northern Pacific Railroad between Wallace and the Old Mission at Cataldo with the narrow gauge.

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Our Towns

by Wendell Brainard

The history of Wallace, county seat of Shoshone County, dates back from the spring of 1884, when a small settlement sprang up first known as Placer Center. Colonel Wallace, after whom the city was eventually named, came to the district from Portland, Oregon in 1883 and established mining claims at Nine Mile, canyon Creek and Placer Creek. He made his headquarters at Kingston and later moved to Evolution, just west of present day Osburn, also known as Heller's Park, for George Heller, another early pioneer prospector.

Colonel Wallace met up with D.C. McKissick on May 6, 1884, and along with several others, they packed to Wallace and built a cabin on the site later occupied by the original office of the Federal Mining & Smelting Co. This party platted the ground and established a general lay-out of the city. The main street at that time extended diagonally from what was later the site of the Smoke House and the first location of the Yellowstone Trail Garage, across from the present courthouse.

It was during this year of 1884 that lead ore was found at the Tiger and Poorman camps. Following this discovery, most placer mining ceased and prospecting followed in earnest.

In the same year, Colonel Wallace, who had been writing articles for the *St. Paul Dispatch* and the *Portland Oregonian*, interested several men in Portland to offer a half interest in the Orinco Mine and half of the town site if the Portlanders would build a lead mill at Placer Center.

In 1886, narrow gauge railroads were built from the Cataldo Mission and Burke to the Placer Center. During the same year, a re-survey of the town was made, and a title script for the land was obtained.

In that same year a sawmill was established in Placer Center, and houses and stores were built. The Carter House was the first hotel in Wallace, and a two-story frame building was also built on the present site of the Smoke House. E.F. Moffitt and another party named Marsh established a hardware company, which was the origin of the present Coeur d'Alene Hardware building.

In 1887, Placer Center had grown to such an extent that Colonel Wallace deemed the time was ripe for a city government. Following a meeting of the citizens, Col. Wallace was elected mayor, while Jack Dunn, D.S. McKissick, and two others were named commissioners. The town was officially named Wallace at that meeting. An attorney by the name of Ford presented a pamphlet of ordinances, and, time being short, they were adopted as a whole, without reading. One of the ordinances prohibited cows from roaming the streets without an attendant.

It was during this year that the Dunn Brothers established the first newspaper in Wallace. Otterson built his first store on the present site of the old *Press-Times* Building; Huemann built and established a store, later occupied by the Stewart Drug Company. The first bank in Wallace was established, and White & Bender opened their first store. a schoolhouse was also established in a log cabin on what was later known as Cedar Street. It was there that Miss Annie Angel taught the first term of school.

Two combination theaters and a four piece band were the principle amusements enjoyed by the citizens of Wallace during 1889. Differences between individuals were settled speedily, and the coroner usually acted as referee in those disputes.

In July, 1890, a fire spread from the roof of a house on Sixth Street and by nightfall all but three buildings were destroyed. The alleys at the time were filled with brush and stumps and for several days a veritable forest fire raged though the city. On the morning of the second day of the fire a flat car came from Mullan, carrying a stove and provision. In this manner bread and coffee were served to the people of the city.

Four days after the fire a tent city was erected and within six months, by Christmas of 1890, brick buildings and other structures replaced the temporary buildings.

A system of waterworks was installed around that time, and with construction of hydro-electric plants near the city, electricity came into almost universal use for lighting. Wallace at that time had two banks, on daily and one weekly newspaper, a Board of Trade, a modern sewer system, four churches, modern school buildings and a public library, which opened in December 1902. There were two hospitals, and good hotels.

The present library was built in 1910, and the high school was erected in 1914. The new First National Bank Building, the Shoshone, and the Gyde-Taylor buildings were substantial improvements made in 1916. A municipal swimming pool was completed during 1939.

The Trusteeship form of government continued until April, 1893. In March, 1889, C.W. Vedder was named Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Other members were F.J. Heller, Norman G. King, Mr. Haskins, and J. Heart. On April 6, 1893 the government changed from a Board of Trustees to Mayor and Alderman. The first mayor was W.S. Haskins, with George Steward, P.F. Smith, H.G. King, G. Scott Anderson, James Gearon and Thomas F. Jameson as aldermen.